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Wm Bromscombe JUL 03

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What Will You Do ?

As all our subscribers know the 'Messenger' has a most helpful Temperance Department. Many a man acknowledges that he got his first ideas of Temperance from reading the 'Messenger' when he was a boy, and mothers, who read the 'Messenger' in their girlhood, are to-day bringing up their families upon temperance principles. Many have testified to this in letters accompanying their renewal subscriptions. Such being the case, we do not think we need apologize for suggesting that when our friends are going about securing pledges they endeavor afterwards to secure subscriptions for the 'Messenger.' Thirty cents a year is a very small price for such an interesting and helpful publication, and most people will be glad to subscribe for themselves or for their children. It makes a good Christmas present, and is out of all comparison better than a Christmas or New Year's card, costing the same amount. Those securing the subscriptions are, of course, entitled to the club rates or commissions or premiums announced elsewhere in this paper. What will you do ?

A Blind Man's Life-Work

MR. FRANCIS J. CAMPBELL, LL.D.—
ROYAL NORMAL COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND.

(G. B. and M. S. Osborn Howe, in 'The Christian.')

Born in Tennessee on Oct. 9, 1832, for three and a half years Francis Joseph Campbell romped with his brothers in the sunlight, until one day, not a fatal day, when playing in the yard the thorn of an acacia tree was run into his eye. Unskilful treatment deprived him entirely of the sight of both eyes. It was a sad day at the farm house. But the calamity of 1836 has been instrumental in bringing hope and gladness and comfort to numberless homes in subsequent generations.

But we must go back. In those days the blind, if cared for at all, were forbidden to do many of the thousand things that make up daily life, lest they should injure themselves. It followed, therefore, that the boy Francis Joseph stood a good chance of being spoilt; in truth, he was a spoilt child until he was six years old, when, almost by accident, it was found that he could cut wood without cutting himself. From that time the good sense of the father over-ruled his fears, and he took special pains to train the boy in farm work.

How, when twelve years old, young Campbell was sent to school, how he was tested as to musical talent, but could not tell one tune from another; how he learned to play, but secretly—all this is best told in the pages of 'Plain Speaking,' a volume by the author of 'John Halifax, Gentleman,' in which will also be found the story of Mr. Campbell's early struggles to give himself a university education.

After a strenuous life, which had made its mark on methods for teaching the blind in America, a complete breakdown compelled this restless man to visit Europe, but not to rest; he had but one aim, to ameliorate the condition of the blind, and every subject was studied that could help towards the fulfilment of this purpose.

In January, 1871, accompanied by his wife and son, Mr. Campbell turned his face homeward, but while detained for a few days in London, a gentleman staying at the same hotel proposed his attending a meeting for indigent blind, to which he himself was going. That night, we are told in his own words, was to him 'a sleepless night,' and with the decision

MR. F. J. CAMPBELL.

which characterizes him he informed Mrs. Campbell in the morning that they must delay their journey. A letter of introduction to Dr. Armitage, the well-known friend of the blind, was now made use of, and with united energies they set to work. Dr. Armitage had lost his sight when serving as medical officer during the Crimean War; in 1868 he established the British and Foreign Blind Association, and he now, with Mr. C. A. Miner, urged Mr. Campbell to remain in England.

The homeward journey to America was not completed, but instead three small houses near the Crystal Palace were secured, and a school begun, March 1, 1872, which, two years later, was removed to the present site of the Royal Normal College for the Blind. Here the work has grown and prospered. Dr. Campbell's system of educating the blind is a marvellous success, and what his pupils can accomplish is almost incredible. Visitors are admitted to the college, and may see for themselves what it is difficult to describe.

One of the most striking results is seen in the happy demeanor of the pupils. All are occupied, all are happy. The hopeless and helpless become changed beings, fearless and self-reliant, under the influence and training of 'the doctor,' whose own life is a daily inspiration. A glance at the last of Dr. and Mrs. Campbell's Christmas letters, sent out yearly to their old pupils, tells us of the brilliant success of two of the girl students, one of them having won two prizes for English literature and English history, as well as a schclarship, and the first prize for hygiene. All the other competitors had the blessing of eye-sight.

The other achievement was that of a young lady who won one of the Mendelssohn prizes at the Royal Academy of Music, Berlin; this was rendered the more remarkable because of the blind being excluded as students from this Academy. The hall of the Normal College bears on its walls eloquent testimony to the successes and honors gained by a former student who has recently passed away. It has been proved beyond doubt that music, when properly taught, is the best profession for the blind, and the fact that Dr. Campbell's Academy of Music has received the cordial recognition of the musical profession, settles the question as to the thoroughness of his system. Our late beloved Queen, as patron, took a kindly interest in the college from the beginning, and a few weeks before her death an intimation was sent to Dr. Campbell that she would be pleased to receive the pupils again at Windsor.

The great object the Principal and his executive committee have always kept in view, is to qualify the students to become self-supporting; for this reason, therefore, in addition to giving a good general education, their aim is to impart a musical training and technical instruction equal to that which is given to the sighted in the best schools of music. Dr. Campbell insists that it is necessary not only to have good teaching and superintendence of practice, but an ample supply of good musical instruments. At the college, five organs and 100 pianos are employed. As in literature, the Braille system is in use for music. It was introduced from Paris by the late Dr. Armitage, through whose untiring efforts and generosity the blind throughout the English-speaking world may now obtain the best literature and the best music. It is an interesting fact that a Braille typewriter has recently been invented in America, and a Braille shorthand-writing-machine at Birmingham.

It would be difficult to convey an idea of all that comes into the department of physical education. We are told that ordinary lessons are of far less importance than teaching the children to be active and playful. This they become soon after their admission to the college, every inducement to activity being offered in the play and other beautiful grounds, which, it should be observed, were not laid out by Dr. Campbell with assistance, but from his own design. This may sound strangely to those who do not know the subject of our sketch. It may interest them yet more

to hear that he has related, 'What a blind man saw from the top of Mont Blanc,' for he was the first blind man who ever accomplished the feat of climbing that mountain.

A thorough system of physical development, Dr. Campbell maintains, must be the basis for the whole education of the blind, his experience having proved 'that, as a class, the blind are timid, awkward, and helpless; energy, indomitable courage, and fixed determination are usually wanting.' He begins by making them believe that it is possible to be independent of the help of others, and to do all that others can do, except see; he then places within their reach the means needed to call out and cultivate these qualities. The gymnasium has been repeatedly improved, and is now pronounced most complete and unique. Added to this is the girls' gymnasium, with an excellent floor for roller skating; the lakelet, where rowing is taught; the large swimming bath, where the methods of the Life-Saving Society are acquired by the pupils; and lastly, the twelve-in-hand cycle, which will carry its party over a run of fifty miles into the country and back.

One of the most useful branches in the early education of children is the technical training. It not only teaches them to use their hands, rousing the perceptive faculties and physical activity, but fits the boy who has no gifts for literary work or music to become a skilful mechanic.

The religious training is neither sectarian nor narrow. Parties of pupils, varying as to numbers, attend service at the parish church and Nonconformist churches. Those who are members of the Children's Scripture Union are encouraged in regular reading of the Bible, by being provided with the daily portions in Braille.

The pupils under Dr. and Mrs. Campbell's care number about 150. Of these a few private pupils pay a fixed sum, as they would at any other boarding-school. Some are paid for by charitable subscriptions and donations, and the Gardner Trust for the Blind grants a number of scholarships which cover two-thirds of the cost.

To a Canadian Lady Who Built Them a Home.

The following interesting letter was written by the lepers of Ramachandrapuram, India, to Mrs. Kellock, who built an asylum for them. This was the first Canadian lady to do so much for lepers. It is interesting to see their gratitude in the quaint wording of the letter:—

To our very much beloved lady,—

We the inmates of your asylum humbly beg to request the following.

We are the hated people, the lowest and meanest people of this country. Our gracious Father has showed our awful condition to our dear Madam, the missionary, who so constantly made trips to our poor village from time to time. Through her our distressed condition is revealed to you. By the love of God you are forced to come to our aid by showing such a great favor by providing a comfortable house to live in besides clothes and food which we are really enjoying. The houses that are built for us are very nice and comfortable. Since we came in here to the Dr. Kellock Home for Lepers we are very much comforted both in body and soul.

We now come to know how to obtain rest to our souls in the world to come. We are daily taught the blessed words of God. We are taught singing hymns, so we enjoy singing at other times besides at our usual worship twice or thrice a day.

Our houses are built close to a trunk road which leads from Ramachandrapuram to Pasalapudi, etc. We oftentimes find people standing and hearing us singing so joyfully. The wayfarers are deeply impressed and moved in their spirits to say, 'By whose mercy is all this done for you people?' Many of us are converted and feel the peace.

When Mr. Jackson was here he preached us on the verse, 'God so loved the world—' so beautifully. Indeed his visit was very pleasing to us all.

God will hear your prayers and accept your gifts as he did Cornelius's. We earnestly remember you in our daily prayers so that you and Miss Hatch may be bestowed with bodily and spiritual happiness.

We are 50 in number besides those who are called away to our father.

Accept our humble regards and tender the same to those who know about us.

We are the inmates of

'DR. KELLOCK HOME.'

The 'Mission to Lepers in India and the East' is the only mission working solely among lepers. Information as to its work will gladly be given and contributions received by Miss Lila Watt, Sunny Acres, Guelph, Ont.

A Strong Appeal.

('The Presbyterian Witness,' Halifax.)

Total Abstainers throughout Great Britain, Canada and the United States call for a general crusade of Pledge-Signing, to be inaugurated on the 23rd November. In Great Britain the movement is headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury. With him are the Bishop of Carlisle, Dean Farrar and others. In their circular the committees say: 'It does seem to this committee that under the dome of the sky God is now striking an hour for his people to open a new and vigorous campaign against the most colossal evil that curses the country. No time is to be lost.

'Therefore, in the interests of humanity and for the honor of the Christian religion, in the name of God they plead for an uprising and union of the religious and moral forces of the nation.'

The leader asks for a 'simultaneous revival in all the churches of the English-speaking world on Sunday, Nov. 23, 1902, in inaugurating a crusade against the use of intoxicating drinks through the instrumentality of pledge-signing by old and young; by the weak, because they need protection, and by the strong, who, in gratitude for their strength, are willing to be helpful to their weaker brethren.'

Taught by the Holy Ghost.

(Rev. S. Lewis B. Speare, in the 'American Massenger.')

John R. was serving a sentence of five years in the Massachusetts State Prison. For seven years he had been in the English navy, his mother having died in an Irish workhouse when he was in early youth. When in port, he had plunged wildly into the darkest and deepest abysses of vice, being hunted by the London police as a dangerous character.

Soon after his imprisonment in Massachusetts, he was in a dark cell expiating some misconduct. He there overheard his fellow convicts singing in the prison chapel 'There's a light in the window for thee,' at their work-day prayer meeting. A Roman Catholic, unable to read, he had previously attended that meeting, and now, in the dark cell, that hymn moved him to pentence. Supplied with simple bread rations, he resolutely fasted for three days and nights and resolved upon a new life—a resolution bravely and triumphantly kept to the last—His fellow convicts believed in him and asked his prayers when sick and dying.

Upon his conversion he at once learned to read, that he might know the Bible. His experience gave abundant evidence of divine enlightenment. His heart was tender as a child's. A good lady learning of his friendlessness, sent him a box of cake and confectionery on a holiday. When he opened it, and recalled that it was the first token of loving remembrance that had ever come to him in all his life, after a hurried glance, he closed the box and sobbed for an hour.

Cough and insipient consumption came to him early in his imprisonment, and he went out to the world with only about two years to live.

When in the prison hospital, he had said to the chaplain: 'I am going out with no home or friends awaiting me. I have no idea where I am going, or what I shall do; but, if one should offer me a home and a million dollars in gold, upon the condition that I should leave Jesus, I would come back into prison and take Jesus instead.'

He repeated these words to his comrades at their week-day prayer-meeting. On leaving prison he said to the chaplain: 'I want to find employment near the prison, so that it may be seen that one who has been in here can be a Christian.'

While waiting, he revisited the north end of Boston, once the scene of his debauchery, and distributed tracts. Before his conversion he had taken offence at the contractor for whom he was making shoes, and had taken an awful oath against him of revenge. But now meeting him in the streets of Boston, he gave him a tract.

For a time he was kindly welcomed to the Home for Consumptives in the city. While there he spoke in their meetings with unusual acceptance. He was also employed in Y.M.C.A. work, speaking in their Gospel tent upon the Common, and about the wharves, always with great command of attention and interest. In time he was employed to tend the old fashioned gate which guarded the railway crossing, where he could lay his hand upon the prison fence. While there he spoke for his master to all classes. He warned rumsellers that they were taking clothes and bread and schools from innocent children, yet he did not give offence. Later he found service in a coasting ship and then in the American navy—all the time faithful to his master. He wrote his former chaplain from time to time, until his disease culminated and brought release in the Government hospital at Pensacola, Florida.

A sailor, converted in the Boston Bethel, said to a Christian lady: 'I ought to have been a Christian before this. I had a pious shipmate, John R., who was faithful in inviting me.' 'John R.! did you know him?' was her eager question. 'Yes,' said the sailor, 'I saw him die in the hospital at Pensacola.'

BOYS AND GIRLS

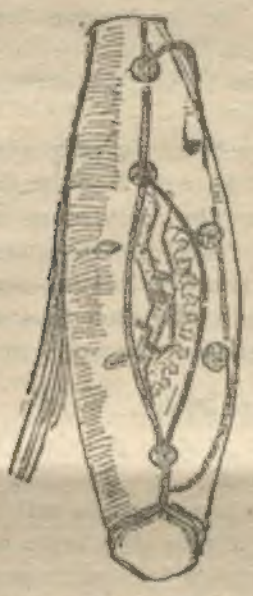
Christmas Presents.

FOR BUSY FINGERS TO MAKE AT HOME.

Just now the boys and girls are beginning to wonder how they can manage to buy presents for everyone with their limited store of pocket-money. But if they use a little ingenuity they can manufacture some pretty articles at home for a very small cost. So to-day we are giving a few hints which we hope will help the 'Messenger' readers in this respect.

FOOTBALL PILLOW.

For the man or woman who travels much a useful Christmas gift is a football pillow snugly tucked away in a little linen travelling case. To make the pillow, cut a piece of mull in the shape and size of an ordinary dinner plate, fill it with down and sew together. Cover it neatly with Indian silk. For the case take an oblong piece of fine linen, hemstitch it all the

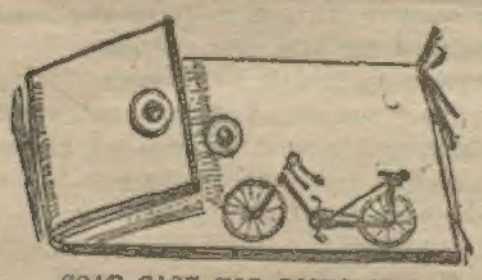


FOOTBALL PILLOW AND CASE.

way round, making the hem about an eighth of an inch wide. Now shirr the ends of this oblong piece and insert at each end buttons made of cardboard and covered with linen. The buttons will hold the case out in its proper shape at the ends. The case may fasten together with tiny buttons and buttonholes or tied with ribbons. If there is time to put any extra work on this convenient little case, embroider 'My Travelling Companion' in brown silk.

BICYCLIST'S SOAP CASE.

A useful and inexpensive little Christmas gift suitable for a bicyclist is a small linen case for holding antiseptic soap sheets. It is made of two pieces of card-



SOAP CASE FOR BICYCLISTS.

board covered with linen. A tiny bicycle is embroidered on the cover, and the case fastens with a patent clasp, like a glove clasp. The soap sheets are sewed inside the case.

MATCH SAFE.

A funny little match safe which one would be glad to find tucked away in one's stocking on Christmas morning, consists of a pair of tiny blue denim overalls. They have pearl buttons, and suspenders made of bone casing, and a big pocket in each leg to hold the matches. Below the

A FUNNY LITTLE MATCH SAFE.

pockets are small, square-shaped pieces of sand-paper, and the legs are embroidered in letters which read 'Scratch your matches on these breeches.'

PHOTOGRAPH AND WALL POCKET.

A handsome photograph pocket is made of two oblong screens of cardboard covered with one thickness of cotton wadding, well sprinkled with sachet powder, and then with dull olive green plush on one side, silesia on the back of one and chamois on the other. The upper right hand corner of the chamois section is reversed, and a spray of wild rosebuds painted carelessly on it. The bottoms of the two sections are fastened together and the proper slope given to the ends by a lacing of narrow ribbon through button-holed loops at the alternate sides.

It is suspended by two pieces and a many-looped bow of the same kind of ribbon.

A still prettier wall pocket has a square of vellum mounted on cardboard for the foundation. A crescent-shaped pocket of the cream vellum, which, as well as the back, has ragged edges, is attached to the back by many-looped bows of narrow yellow crape ribbon drawn through holes bored at each corner of the pocket, at equal distances apart around the bottom, and near them through the foundation.

Two holes are also bored at the upper corners of the back, by which it is suspended by the same kind of ribbon and many-looped bows. A holly branch with berries was painted in water colors across the crescent, and three birds in flight across the foundation above.

MAGAZINE CASE.

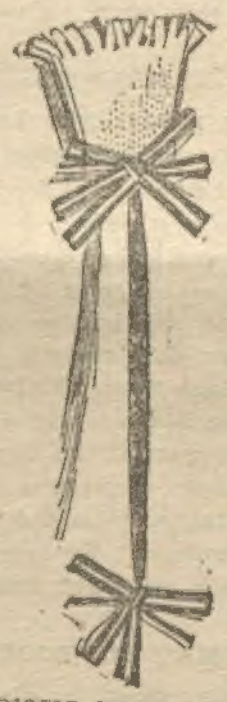
For girl and man alike, a magazine case is a useful gift. Here is a simple way to

MAGAZINE CASE.

make one: Take two pieces of cardboard, just a trifle larger than the ordinary size magazine. Cover them neatly with moire silk. Put between the pads two layers of cotton wadding thickly sprinkled with sachet powder. Now take four pieces of ribbon and paste each piece of ribbon between the two pads at the four corners. Then carefully buttonhole the two pads together, securing the ribbon firmly at the same time. This completed pad forms the bottom of the magazine cover. Make another pad exactly like this one, fastening the unattached ends of the ribbon into the second pad, the same as you did the first. If the ribbon is a half-yard long it will allow the case to hold a good number of magazines. The top pad may be hand-painted, or embroidered, according to the individual taste. In green moire silk or linen, embroidered in white, it is effective.

PATRIOTIC PENWIPER.

The pen wiper always bobs up serenely at Christmas time as an inexpensive souvenir. It is an excellent substitute for the useless Christmas card. A new idea for a penwiper is the patriotic little broom. It is easily made, and attractive as well as serviceable when finished. The handle of the broom may be made of a pencil or even a stick whittled to the proper thinness. Wind in lattice-like fashion around the



PATRIOTIC BROOM PENWIPER.

handle narrow red, white and blue satin ribbons. Tie them in a bow with many loops and ends at the top; before you get to the bottom paste securely to the pencil or stick three pieces of chamois shaped to represent a miniature broom. Cover the place where the chamois is attached to the handle by the ribbons which end here in a little bow.

SURPRISE DOLL.

For the wondering-eyed young person whose Christmas would not be complete without the arrival of a doll baby, here is a suggestion warranted to bring happiness for many a long day. It is a dolly with a pretty bisque face, and a worsted dress which contains the most wonderful of secrets. Carelessly caught at the side of the doll's dress are a baby pair of real knitting needles with a bit of work already started. The mother who gives this doll to her small daughter teaches that young lady how to knit with the little needles, and as the knitting progresses dolly's clothes grow less and less, for after all her dress is only made of worsted, wound

around her body, and as the gay strands are used in the knitting, dolly not only loses her clothes but beautiful prizes fall

THE SURPRISE DOLL.

out to the great delight of her young mistress. This prize doll is easily made and is sure to afford any little girl a merry time as well as teaching her a useful lesson.

POCKET-HANDKERCHIEF BAGS.

Extremely pretty little bags may be made out of pocket-handkerchiefs, which any girl will find useful for holding neckties, her handkerchiefs or her gloves. Buy two plain hem-stitched handkerchiefs, but be sure they are made of fine linen. Baste the sides and the bottom together, then sew on rather full around the sides and bottom half-inch French Valenciennes lace. Use the same lace, only in a wider width, for the upper part of the bag, and make a shirring string of narrow white ribbon about three inches from the top. The bag is greatly improved by being lined with a pretty shade of bright silk.

HAT-PIN BOOK.

Every woman would be glad to receive a hat-pin book as a Christmas present. It is easy to make and extremely attractive when finished. Cardboard is used for its foundation. Four pieces of cardboard are necessary, as it takes two pieces to make the back of the book and two for the front. The pieces of cardboard are first wadded and then covered with linen, the edges carefully buttonholed. The two pieces of cardboard are then tied together at the back with many bows of narrow ribbon. They fasten in the front with but one bow, only much wider. In making these books it is advisable for the novice to buy stamped linen. Covers for hat-pin books can now be bought with not only a stamped floral design, but with the inscription 'Hat-Pins.' The embroidered cover is used for the front of the book, the plain one answers for the back. Of course, the book must be well stocked with hat pins, which are thrust through the wadded cushion inside. An artistic hat-pin book may be made of green linen embroidered with purple violets and tied with violet ribbons. The lettering may be worked in a darker shade of green, or in violet, matching the flowers in color.

SHIRT WAIST BOX.

An ordinary box may be converted into quite a thing of beauty by the ingenious woman. The big cardboard box which is always in the way may easily be made into a silken case for holding the modern girl's shirt waists. Take any box large enough to hold a shirt waist without folding it too much, and cover it inside and out with cambric. To this cambric lining sew either a piece of the new perfumed flannel which is so much the vogue just now, or cotton sprinkled well with sachet, and cover this neatly with an artistic design in China silk, or with a piece of rich brocade. Tie the box and cover together with a big bow of moire ribbon, and if you are skilled with your needle, embroider on one corner of the cover the owner's initials in threads of silver.

PERFUMED COAT HANGERS.

For the woman who is fortunate enough to have closet room in plenty, a perfumed coat-hanger makes a Christmas gift which she will welcome with joy. An ordinary wire coat-hanger, which can be bought in almost any shop for a few cents, is used for the foundation. Cover this wire frame with a thick padding of cotton sprinkled well with sachet. Over this neatly sew a covering of silk. The ends of the frame may be finished with little butterfly bows. A Christmas gift of this kind will not only keep the owner's pretty bodices free from wrinkles, but the waist fortunate enough to be suspended from the dainty frame will have about it a delicate perfume.

PIN CASE.

The pin case is now considered as a rival to the time-honored pin-cushion, though when it first appeared it was considered only as a travelling convenience. To make it, take a piece of brocaded silk about half a yard long and a quarter of a yard wide, wad it with a thick layer of cotton and neatly line it with plain silk of any shade which will blend effectively with the brocaded cover. Fill this case with a variety of pins of assorted sizes. When the case is filled, fold the ends one over the other. These pin cases may also be made of ribbons in the college colors instead of brocaded silk.

VEIL CASE.

A new sort of a veil case is a novel Christmas present which could be easily made in a hurry at the last moment. No matter what good resolutions have gone before, the emergency Christmas gift has come to be acknowledged as a perennial necessity; hence the directions for making the new veil case are well worth having. The case in shape is modelled after an everyday kitchen rolling-pin, but instead of it being made of wood, it is made of the gayest of satin ribbon, sweet smelling, and stuffed with cotton. The ends of the ribbon are fringed and tied with narrower ribbon, and the perfumed cotton inside the ribbon case is packed very closely. Over this pretty little rolling-pin the veils are wound, and are thus kept in perfect condition.

MEDICINE GLASS COVER.

A dainty little Christmas gift which would be most useful in a sick room, can be made at home by any woman who is at all clever with her needle. It is simply a cover for the medicine glass, but beside its usefulness, it can be made a thing of beauty. Have a piece of ordinary thin glass cut perfectly round in shape and a trifle larger than the top of a tumbler. Have bored in the centre two tiny holes. Now get a round fine linen doily a little larger than the glass, and embroider it in any pretty design. An unconventional wreath of small pansies would be appropriate, for every one knows that pansies are for thoughts! or the doily, as it is to be given for a Christmas gift, may be decorated with bright sprigs of holly. In order to fasten the doily to the glass cover, be careful to neatly work in its centre a small buttonhole. This buttonhole must hold a tiny silk-wound ring. Through the two holes in the glass, baby-ribbon is run. This ribbon is then tied to the ring, and is finished with little bows, and as the ring is fastened securely in the buttonhole, the doily and the glass are thus held close together.

Take Time.

(G. A. Suttle, in a Scottish Paper.)

Take time to Think :
Thought oft will save thee from the snare,
Bring thee to cooling streams and bowers,
Spare thee from nursing needless care,
Surround thee with defensive towers;
Yield thee the harvest of content,
Lift thee from dust to starry ways,
Discover comfort heaven-sent
In thy dark and cheerless days,
Therefore, take time to think.

Take time to Pray :
For when thou pray'st the vision's cleared,
The voice is toned, the will's subdued,
The dear are to thee more endeared,
And the soul's failing strength renewed,
In prayer the purest words are spoken,
The mind receives heaven's holy light,
The heart is given the Spirit's token,
The hands are charged with wisdom's might.
Therefore, take time to pray.

Take time to Praise :
Praise is the witness that you see,
Or hear, or feel, or understand,
Or trust where there is mystery
About the workings of his hand.
It is thy child-attempt to prove
Thy kinship with the hosts above,
Who, as they in God's presence move,
Praise him for his exhaustless love.
Therefore, take time to praise.

Take time to Work :
Know what a privilege it is
To work with God, to have thy hand
Engaged for him, thy energies
Developing 'neath his command.
To share the stores of grace and truth
Which to his faithful ones are given;
In service to maintain thy youth,
And hear the Lord's 'Well done!' in heaven.
Therefore, take time to work.

A Bagster Bible Free.

Send five new subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger' at thirty cents each and secure a nice Bagster Bible, suitable for Sabbath School or Day School. Bound in black pebbled cloth, with red edges, measures seven inches by five and three-quarter inches when open.

Christmas Presents at Small Expense.

(Jennie Graham, in an American paper.)

My father is a preacher, and has charge of several country churches which are very poor and struggling. Several years ago my sister and I were inspired with the idea of giving the children in the Sunday-schools a Christmas frolic. But the fund in the treasury was all pre-empted and our private purses were not full. If, however, you want a thing very much and think over it a great deal, there is generally a way found of getting your wishes accomplished.

First, we ransacked the house—especially the garret and the parlor closets—for all the old ornaments, and favors, and souvenirs, and pictures, and better-class trash that were just a little broken, or soiled, or scratched. These we mended and rubbed up, sometimes cutting off where nothing else would do, or adding a piece of ribbon when it would be very telling and at the same time hide a ghastly wound. Or we would take a box and paste strips of fancy papers around it with gay pictures here and there, then fill it with paper and envelopes—several kinds of these if our stock was not sufficient to be uniform. It was very wonderful how many things we found, and how well they could be doctored into effective bric-a-brac. After a day or two's hunt, I confess you feel a good deal like my little friend whose mother found him cutting up his bigger brother's jacket to sell to the rag man. It is hard to keep one's fingers off the most respectable and well established lares and penates. But really the possibilities in rubbish—or what we had heretofore called rubbish—grow to be recognized at a glance under such training, and you learn to treasure the 'bit,' as the aesthetic does his latest find. Having discovered wealth in these trifles, we now have a box in which we throw such things as they turn up during the year, so that we always have on hand a 'will-be' valuable store.

Now for another wing of the enterprise. I had often heard of five-cent stores, but their glory had never burst upon me until our Christmas-tree-craze. Then the one in Philadelphia, on Eighth street, opened to me—O, such a vista of delights—paint-boxes, baskets, other baskets at alas! ten cents, whose lid and bottom, being almost the same size, could be separated and have a piece of bright colored chambray or chintz gathered round it with a draw-string at the top, presto! one basket at ten cents made into two very superior ones. Then the doll-babies could be dressed up into fashionable ladies. And the auto-graph-books and scrap-books would have the advantage of being small, so that fewer friends would be tormented for autographs and pictures. And the dominoes and checkers looked very pretty and bright in their boxes and would entertain the children at home as well as though they were of the first quality. There were many other treasures which I have forgotten, but these very cheap gifts, given judiciously to the children, will delight them as much as though they had cost ten times as much. But this judicious giving is a troublesome part of the affair. We made a long list of the scholars, and then apportioned to them their presents. It was amazing how many times we were obliged to shift from one name to another in order to satisfy all.

Then when the day comes get some boy to have ready for you a big tree. You had better give him plenty of time to get it, because it is wonderful how difficult it is to secure a shapely evergreen. Hang upon it the conical strung pop-corn, and ropes of cranberries, and as many or as few candles as there is money for. Now comes the putting on of the presents. Hang them on as skilfully as possible as to effect, and I promise you, if your children are any thing like ours, they will be very much delighted.

If you cannot have a tree try my five-cent present scheme with the children of your washwoman, or of the man who attends to the furnace, or some of the poor children whom you must know of. It takes such a very little to please the small people in rich homes; how much less to entirely bewitch those in poor homes. It seems a pity that the rich only have a chance to celebrate the great gift that was for all mankind.

Helen's Sacrifice

(By Mary Farnsworth, in 'Pres. Banner.')

'That reminds me,' said Grace Stevens, in response to an observation made by her friend, 'that you haven't seen my birthday presents. I don't know how it happened but I seem to have been especially favored, this year. Mamma always gives me something nice, but this time she gave me a tailor-made dress she knew I wanted. How do you like it?'

'It is just too lovely for anything,' said Helen, enthusiastically, her eyes lingering admiringly upon the soft lustre of the goods. 'Then papa has given me ten dollars for a hat to go with the suit. Minnie Arlington sent me a book, and cousin Winifred gave me this handkerchief, trimmed with real lace, you see. Will bought me a box of chocolates. Rather nice to have a brother when one has a birthday, isn't it?'

'I should think so; decidedly,' admitted Helen.'

'And, oh yes; I almost forgot Aunt Minerva's present,—some mousquetaire kid gloves.'

'You certainly fared well,' said Helen, a little enviously, remembering that her own birthday had passed with only the smallest remembrance, although, to be sure, she had expected very little this year, on account of the extra expense entailed by her graduation.

'I am glad, at least,' said Grace, 'that I shall have something new to wear.'

'You always have so many pretty gowns,' Helen replied.

'Not nearly as many as I would like. Besides, I am to go to the city soon, to visit Aunt Lucile, and then I shall need a great many more than I have now. Just think,—there will be concerts and lectures; a city has so many advantages, you know. I can hardly wait for the time to come. That will be what I call living.'

'Yes,' acquiesced Helen. 'How I wish I were going too.'

As Helen descended the stone steps of the Stevens mansion after she had concluded her call, she gave a little sigh of envy as she compared Grace's lot with her own. She wondered if she would ever get beyond the miserable economies which it had always seemed necessary that she should practice. Then she remembered that a position as book-keeper had been partly promised her, which, if she succeeded in obtaining it, would enable her to have part, at least, of the many pretty things she longed for. As she walked slowly homeward, visions of tailor-made gowns, heretofore unhoped for advantages, with, perhaps, a trip, later on, filled her mind, always coupled with the one tantalizing provision, that she succeed in securing the position.

Strangely enough, at the supper-table, that evening, Helen's father announced that her chances of obtaining work seemed decidedly better, that, in fact, the position was practically assured, and before the week was out, Helen was working away at the desk of Haines Brothers, happy in the thought that her ambitious dreams had been realized.

How slowly those first days and weeks passed. Then, when Helen had nearly toiled through the last week of her first month, at the end of which she expected to receive in payment a sum which it seemed to her would make her almost rich, a misfortune came to the Gordon household in the way of a failure on the part of the firm with which Helen's father was connected. Although a place was secured with another firm, it was at a reduced salary, which would necessitate a retrenchment of the family expenditures. Among other things, it was decided that it would be impossible for Helen's sister May to continue her course of study at the academy. To take the younger children out of school was, of course, not to be considered; but May was already well advanced in her studies, and it seemed less essential that she should be kept in school, although by finishing the course, she would be materially benefited, as she expected to teach.

Perhaps no one realized as Helen did what May would miss in giving up life at the Academy. Helen felt, too, that it was unjust, that she should have enjoyed privileges that May could not have. Haunted by this feeling she lay awake far into the night, thinking, planning. Was it possible that by foregoing some pleasures, and by economizing in various ways she might be able to give May the coveted education? It would really be only fair that she should, and yet when she thought of the power and gratification that little luxuries would bring, it seemed very hard to give them up.

If the decision which Helen finally reached cost her a struggle, at least no one would have suspected it when, the next morning she said, quite calmly, to her mother, 'I believe that by denying myself a few things which I do not really need, I could help May through school.'

'I am afraid,' said Helen's mother, greatly surprised at her daughter's suggestion, 'that you do not realize how hard it would be. I am sure we have never thought of such a thing as your helping May. Think seriously about it, at least, before you decide to undertake it.'

But Helen replied that she had thought seriously about it, and in spite of many protestations on May's part, insisted on carrying out her plan as suggested.

The days and months which followed were for Helen, for the most part, days of toiling, striving, sacrificing; and yet, in spite of it all, her life seemed to have gained a new inspiration. Never before had laughter fallen so lightly from her lips, never before had she felt so keen a delight in living.

When Helen's friend returned from the city, she hastened to visit her, and as usual Grace entertained her by exhibiting all her

latest acquisitions, including, this time, the pretty gowns she had brought from the city.

Helen looked at them with honest admiration, but to her great surprise, with none of the envy with which she had been accustomed to regard Grace's possessions. Could it be possible, she wondered, that there was no longer cause for envy on her part? Then the situation analyzed itself as she remembered, with pardonable pride, that May had taken first rank in her class at graduation; and when she compared Grace's gowns with her own, turned and remodelled many times, but into each separate renovation wrought self-sacrifice and self-conquest, and instinctively felt that the latter possessed qualities, in consideration of which Grace's costumes, faultless as they were, appeared but the merest vanity. After all, the giving up had not been hard. On the contrary, Grace felt as never before that girls who have everything lavished upon them, do not, at least, know what pleasure may be found in denying one's self for others. She knew that nothing could have induced her to exchange her lot for Grace's more favored one, and the glad tears filled her eyes as she realized that her reward was a fulfilment of the text of the sermon of the preceding Sabbath: 'He that findeth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.'

A New Plan

('Christian Standard.')

The Golden Link Mission Band had decided to give no more entertainments to raise money. But there was their little orphan girl in India whom they had adopted, and they must keep their pledge to support her. It would have been very well if the girls of the band had had plenty of money, for they were all in earnest and willing to make any sacrifice; but none of them were rich, and if they had given all their pocket money, it would not have made up the required sum. They were holding a meeting to talk over the important question.

'I don't see what we are going to do,' said Lilly. 'Last year we cleared twenty-four dollars on our ice-cream social.'

'Yes,' said Irene, indignantly, 'by giving the people such stingy little dishfuls that I was ashamed to carry them in. I am glad I'll never have to do anything like that again.'

'We must send the money next month,' said Alice, ' and we lack thirty dollars yet.'

'Well, we must just ask the people for money,' said energetic Ruth. 'Mr. Ellis says that Christian people ought to be glad to give directly to any worthy cause.'

'I can't beg,' declared Ada; 'I just simply couldn't ask people for money.'

'It wouldn't be begging,' declared Ruth, stoutly, 'it would just be giving them a chance to help the missionary cause along.'

'Perhaps you are right,' said Ada, 'but it would seem like begging and I couldn't do it.'

'I don't think my mother would allow me to ask for money,' said Irene.

Emily had not spoken yet. She was a quiet girl, who had never taken a part in the entertainments which the band had given. She sat thinking while the others were discussing the question. At length she said:

'Girls, I believe I have a plan that will do. You know it is necessary to get the matter before the church in some way, else they won't know that we need money. Let us give a social, not one for money, you know, but a free one just for people to come and enjoy themselves. We will entertain them as well as we can, and perhaps serve some simple refreshments; then we will ask Mr. Ellis to tell the people about our need, and those who wish can give us some money for our orphan.'

Half a dozen voices chorused enthusiastically, 'That's just the thing,' and 'How did you think of it?' and modest Emily flushed with pleasure to think she had been of use.

In due time the members of the church and Sunday-school were invited from the pulpit to attend the Mission Band social.

'You will observe,' Mr. Ellis said, in making the announcement, 'that this is a free social, just a social gathering as one of your houses would be free. We have an enlightened Mission Band that does not believe in obtaining money for the Lord's work under various undignified disguises.'

The girls decorated the church parlors with wild flowers and branches from the woods; the refreshments consisted of chocolate and little home-made tea cakes; a young lady soloist in the church consented to sing for them, and that completed the preparation.

The church and Sunday-school turned out in full force, and the delighted girls exerted themselves to entertain and serve their guests. Before the evening was half over every one was saying that the social was a splendid success. Then Mr. Ellis arose to present the society's needs. He told about the orphan in India who was receiving Christian training through the exertions of these young girls; he told how they had resolved, in common with all other societies of the church, that hereafter all money for the Lord's cause must be raised by direct giving. In conclusion he said, 'We are not even going to take up a collection, for in that case some might give simply for the look of it, as they say, or because they are ashamed not to. We don't want any of that sort of money; we want every penny to be consecrated to the Lord. Those who wish to help us may find one of the members of the Mission Band, and give the money to her. We are ready to receive contributions as small as a cent, and as large as any one's generosity can make them.'

When the people began to disperse, the girls were busy. It seemed that every one wanted to give something. Little Laura May brought a penny; poor Miss Dodd, the seamstress, gave ten cents with a tremulous wish that it were more; Mr. Alstock, the merchant, left a shining gold piece in Emily's hand, and many more gave, according to their means. When the people were gone, and the girls gathered with Mr. Ellis to count the money, they found that they had more than sixty dollars.

'And we can send it all to our orphan,' cried Lilly, 'for there isn't a bit of expense to pay.'

'We never made more than thirty dollars before at any entertainment,' said Ruth.

'And just think, we haven't had any tiresome rehearsals,' said Alice, 'and nobody is mad because somebody else had the best part.'

'And we haven't had to sell tickets to people who don't want them,' said Irene.

'And, best of all, you've found out that people do love the mission cause,' said Mr. Ellis as the meeting adjourned.

Sample Copies.

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Clean Speaking.

(The 'League Journal.')

You ask me why I do not swear,
  And, mate, you ask me kindly;
That moves me more than you're aware,
  Where bitter words fall blindly.

I have a reason true and right,
  And you, my mates, shall hear it;
I follow but the world's true light,
  Christ's law, and I revere it.

Suppose that someone scorned your friend,
  His name to vile use turning;
You quickly would his name defend,
  With indignation burning.

There is one Blessed Holy Name;
  No other name above it;
Which some use lightly to their shame,
  I honor it, I love it.

Who made the ear, shall he not hear
  Unclean communications,
And oaths, and blasphemies, and sneers,
  In high or lowly stations?

It may seem very quick, and smart,
  With energy o'erflowing,
To use the words that chill the heart,
  To set the workers going.

But let the fear of God within,
  And love be there the master;
The eager hands will quick begin,
  The willing feet run faster.

Any one of the many articles in 'World Wide' will give two cents' worth of pleasure. Surely, ten or fifteen hundred such articles during the course of a year are well worth a dollar.

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The following are the contents of the issue of Nov. 15, of 'World Wide':

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Episodes of the Royal Progress on Oct. 25—Manchester 'Guardian,' Edinburgh 'Scotsman,' and 'Morning Post,' London.
The Education Debate in the British Parliament—Report of Manchester 'Guardian.'
A Bundle of Aphorisms—'Academy and Literature,' London.
Municipal Socialism, VII.—Municipalities and Direct Labor—'The Times,' London.
The Anthracite Strike: Its Social and Religious Effects—By an Observer in the Field, in 'The Outlook,' New York.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE ARTS.

Photography as a Hobby—I.—By an Amateur Photographer in the 'Young Man,' London.
Grieg as a National Composer—By A. M. Wergeland, in 'North American Review.'
Ruskin as I Knew Him—II.—By Sir W. B. Richmond, in 'St. George,' the journal of the English Ruskin Societies.

CONCERNING THINGS LITERARY.

The King's Thanksgiving—Poem, by the Rev. H. D. Rawnsley, in the 'Westminster Budget.'
Rapids at Night—By Duncan Campbell Scott.
Sir Alfred Lyall on Tennyson—'The Spectator' and 'The Athenaeum,' London.
The Hibbert Journal—'The Speaker' and 'The Pilot,' London.
Missionary Work in China—The 'Western Mail,' Cardiff.
Literary and Musical Plagiarism—New York 'Evening Post.'

HINTS OF THE PROGRESS OF KNOWLEDGE.

An Address on Knowledge and Wisdom in Medicine—By Sir Dyce Duckworth, M.D., LL.D., Edin. Abridged from 'The Lancet,' London.
Electricity in the Kitchen—Chambers's Journal,' Edinburgh and London.
A Tree that Dries up Springs—By M. Lamy, in 'Cosmos,' Paris.

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LESSON X.—DECEMBER 7.

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth i., 16-22. Commit vs. 16, 17. Read Ruth, chs. 1-4.

Golden Text.

'Be kindly affectioned one to another.'—Rom. xii., 10.

Home Readings.

Monday, Dec. 1.—Ruth i., 1-10.
Tuesday, Dec. 2.—Ruth i., 14-22.
Wednesday, Dec. 3.—Ruth ii., 1-12.
Thursday, Dec. 4.—Ruth ii., 13-23.
Friday, Dec. 5.—1 Sam. xx., 11-17.
Saturday, Dec. 6.—1 John iv., 7-21.
Sunday, Dec. 7.—Rom. viii., 31-39.

Lesson Text.

(16) And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: (17) Where thou diest,, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me. (18) When she saw that she was steadfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her. (19) So they two went until they came to Bethlehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Bethlehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, is this Naomi? (20) And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me. (21) I went out full, and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me? (22) So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

CONDENSED FROM MATTHEW HENRY

Ruth put an end to the debate, by a most solemn profession of her immovable resolution never to forsake Naomi, nor to return to her own country or her relations again, v. 16, 17. Nothing could be said more fine, more brave, than this; she seems to have had another spirit, and another speech, now that her sister was gone. She begs of her mother-in-law to say no more against her going, 'Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee; for all thy entreaties now cannot shake that resolution which thy instructions formerly have wrought in me; and therefore let me hear no more of them.' Note, it is a great vexation and uneasiness to those that are resolved for God and religion, to be tempted and solicited to alter their resolution. 'Whither thou goest I will go, though to a country I never saw, and which I have been trained up in a low and ill opinion of; though far from my own country, yet with thee every road shall be pleasant.' (2) She will dwell with her: 'Where thou lodgest I will lodge,though it be in a cottage,nay, though it be no better lodging than Jacob had, when he had the stones for his pillow.' (3) She will entwine her interests with Naomi, 'Thy people shall be my people.' From Naomi's character she concludes certainly that that great nation was a wise and an understanding people; she judges of them all by her good mother, who, wherever she went, was a credit to her country (as all those should be, who profess relation to the better country, that is, the heavenly), and, therefore, she will think herself happy if she may be reckoned one of them. 'Thy God shall be my God,' and farewell to all the gods of Moab, which are a vanity and a lie. I will adore the God of Israel, the only living and true God, trust in him alone, serve him, and in everything be ruled by him; this is to take the Lord for our God. 'Where thou diest I will die: There will I be buried'; not desiring to have so much as her dead body carried back to Moab, in token of any remaining love for that country. She backs her resolution to adhere to Naomi with a solemn oath: 'The Lord do so to me, and more also (which was an ancient form of imprecation), if aught but death part me and thee.' An oath for confirmation was the end of this strife, and would leave a lasting obligation upon her, never to forsake that good way she was now making choice of.

Naomi and Ruth, after many a weary step, came at last to Bethlehem. And they came very seasonably, 'in the beginning of the barley harvest,' which was the first of their harvests, that of wheat following after. Now Naomi's own eyes might convince her of the truth of what she had heard in the country of Moab, that 'the Lord had visited his people in giving them bread,' and Ruth might see the land in its best state; and now they had opportunity to provide for winter. Our 'times are in God's hands'; both the events and the times of them. Notice is here taken, of the discomposure of the neighbors upon this occasion; (v. 19). 'All the city was moved about them. Her old acquaintances gathered about Naomi to inquire concerning her state, and to bid her welcome to Bethlehem again. And they said, 'Is this Naomi?' The women of the city said it, for the word is feminine. They with whom she had formerly been intimate were surprised to see her in this condition she was so much broken and altered with her afflictions, that they could scarcely believe their own eyes, or think that this was the same person whom they had formerly seen, so fresh and fair, and gay. 'Is this Naomi?' So unlike is the rose, when it is withered, to what it was when it was blooming. What a poor figure does Naomi make now, compared with what she made in her prosperity! If any asked this question in contempt, upbraiding her with her miseries, their temper was very base and sordid; nothing is more barbarous than to triumph over those that are fallen. But we may suppose that the generality asked it in compassion and commiseration. If some upbraided her with her poverty she was not moved against them, as she would have been, if she had been poor and proud; but, with a good deal of piteous patience, bore that and all the other melancholy effects of her affliction; (v. 20, 21),-'Call me not Naomi, call me Mara,' etc. 'Naomi' signifies pleasant or amiable; but all my pleasant things are laid waste; 'call me Mara, bitter, or bitterness, for I am now a woman of sorrowful spirit.' It was a very sad and melancholy change. She 'went out full'; so she thought herself when she had her husband with her, and two sons. Much of the fulness of our comfort in this world arises from agreeable relations. But she now 'came home again empty,' a widow, and childless, and, probably, had sold her goods, and brought home no more than the clothes on her back. So uncertain is all that which we call fulness. But there is a fulness which we can never be emptied of; a good part which shall not be taken from those that have it. She acknowledges the hand of God, his mighty hand, in the affliction. 'It is the Lord that has brought me home again empty; it is the Almighty that has afflicted me.' Nothing conducts more to satisfying a gracious soul under an affliction, than the consideration of the hand of God in it. Especially to consider, that he who afflicts us is the Almighty, with whom it is folly to contend, and to whom it is our duty and interest to submit. He afflicts as a God in covenant, and his all-sufficiency may be our support and supply under all our afflictions. He that empties us of the creature, knows how to fill us of himself. Naomi speaks very feelingly of the impression which the affliction had made upon her; He has 'dealt very bitterly with me.' The cup of affliction is a bitter cup; and even that which afterward yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness, yet for the present, is not joyous, but grievous, Heb. xii., 11. It well becomes us to have our hearts humbled under humbling providences. And then our troubles are sanctified to us, when we thus comport with them; for it is not an affliction in itself, but an affliction rightly borne, that does us good.

C. E. Topic.

Sunday, Dec. 7.—Topic—Do I discourage others? Mark x., 46, 52; Num. xiii., 26-33.

Junior C. E. Topic.

OBEDIENCE.

Monday, Dec. 1.—Obey God. 1 Sam. xv., 22, 23.

Tuesday, Dec. 2.—Obey parents. Prov. i., 8, 9.

Wednesday, Dec. 3.—Obey rulers. Matt. xxii., 21.

Thursday, Dec. 4.—The obedient rewarded. Rev. xxii., 14.

Friday, Dec. 5.—The disobedient punished. Matt. v., 19.

Saturday, Dec. 6.—Our whole duty. Eccl. xii., 13.

Sunday, Dec. 7.—Topic—The soldier's first duty—obedience. Prov. vi., 20-23.

Daily Bible Study.

(Margaret Sangster.)

Daily Bible study keeps us in touch with all history, science and philosophy, inviting us from the Divine Word to the collateral testimony of the ages. Constantly in our present day problems we go back to those of the men who went before us. There is no such thing as an intelligent comprehension of latter-day politics without an acquaintance with the principles on which these are built. Our modern legislators are not wiser than Moses. Our modern civilization is founded on the ten commandments. Our modern altruism climbs no higher than the Master's rule of love to the neighbor, and unobtrusive service to the 'little one' who perishes for lack of the cup of cold water.

A yet higher and fuller advantage comes to those who seek in daily Bible reading the growth of the spiritual life. We do not expect that our flowers, indoors or out, will thrive and repay us with bloom, if we give them no care. We recognize the value of recurrent vigilance in regard to any talent which we would improve. Daily study of the Bible, in the hush of one's own room, in the morning hour, or the evening, just when one can best secure the definite time for the watch with the Master, will keep us close to our blessed Friend, and enable us to follow Him, not afar off, but in His very train. We shall feel His hand in ours. We shall sometimes lean upon His breast. Often, when weary and discouraged, and troubled, because the road is steep and leads uphill, and our progress is very slow, we shall be conscious of a gleam of light from the door of heaven set ajar for us, and, almost audibly, His voice in our ear will bid us have courage and go forward. This present help will be ours, when we most need it, and our Lord will Himself show us how to apply His promises, so that we may say, in every crisis, with confidence, 'I will trust, and not be afraid, for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and song.'

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The Cat's Cradle.

(By Edward J. Baillie, in 'The Daisy Basket.')

(Continued.)

With many tears and after more force than persuasion, the little kittens were at last put into their box, and this was covered up carefully with a lid tied down with string, and the children took their sacred charge to the stream, and Mary, whose heart was ready to break, had to run back up the shady lane to avoid seeing Robert place the cradle as tenderly as he could upon the bosom of the waters.

The day was beautifully fine. Down the river near the town, towards which the stream floated, was the charming residence of the good lady of the district, Miss Graham, whose lawns, like velvet carpets, fringed the river, and the tiny wavelets lapped the ridge of rockwork, full of aquatic plants, which completed the artistic arrangement of her water garden.

Miss Graham stood by the edge of the river with her gardener, William, superintending some little bits of planting to which she was giving attention. As luck — or whatever else one may prefer to call it—would have it, there she stood, just as the soap-box came floating along with its strange load. Topsy and Tabby, feeling cramped in their quarters, tried to make plaintive appeal in the best way possible to them by crying out in unison as plainly as kittens could cry, "Me out; me out ! please, please me out !'

'Dear me, William, what can be the matter ?'

'I dunno, mum, it is uncommon like a baby cryin'.'

'Quick, William, quick ! Bless its little heart ! Pull the box in to me, William.'

So William reached over cautiously and balanced himself deftly upon his right foot planted firmly amongst the stones, whilst his left leg was held straight out behind to enable him to take a long reach safely. It was a critical moment —the rake which was serving the purpose of a hauling hook, just touched the wood and no more— William bobbed unsteadily for a second, but the touch of the rake upon the drifting box set him right again and the cradle was drawn to land.

'A cat and kitlins, mum, I do b'leeve,' said William, as the sound was more clearly articulated. And so he proved more nearly correct in his guess than he was in his first hazard.

The little cats had been fortunate. The day was fine and the river calm, moving along sluggishly towards the town. As it was the early part of the day, no one was about to stay the progress of the cradle, and the voyage of some half-dozen miles was safely accomplished.

Miss Graham quickly opened out the box and let William into the secret which now revealed itself, and she read aloud the children's message with a little ripple of laughter between something nearly akin to tears. Her tender heart was so touched as the half-frightened, half-trustful little creatures were liberated and commenced to lick her hands, and look beseechingly into her face. And so Topsy and Tabby were introduced to their new quarters of comfort and repose.

'Well, I never !' said William, with measured delivery and the emphasis upon the last word; but the conclusion of the sentence was uncertain, for it was never reached.

'Isn't it quite a little romance ?' said Miss Graham. The next time we drive round the village, William, I must look out for Rose Cottage. I think I know the place. But this is a secret, please, for I have a little plan in my mind that I want to carry out quietly.'

'Oh, yes, mum, you may quite append on me for that. I know the childer quite well. Nice, bright little things as ever you see, mum, and the mother's a striving hard-working woman as ever be. John Burton, he drives Tummuses waggin, and is a decent mon enough—a bit hard o' times, as the sayin' is, but tender-hearted and reet, I know; but I'll shew you, mum, when we next passes the cottage: it's got a rose o'er the porch, an' a flowering onion and a red gerania in the winder.'

So the cats found a new home, and Miss Graham had a new joy. The children in the home in the village, and the good mother, often wondered whether Providence really marked the voyage of kittens as well as the fall of sparrows. They wished they could some day know what had really become of their pets. But in their inmost heart they somehow felt they had been rescued, yet hardly hoped ever to see them again.

'Mother! mother!' shouted Mary, one bright sunny afternoon, just as the children had got home from school, 'there is such a beautiful carriage at the gate, and such a pretty pony, and such a happy-looking driver, and such a nice lady getting out—coming to the door.'

'Dear me !' said Mrs. Burton, with just a faint trace of impatience, 'and I've only got my blue print on, because it's the day to clean the parlor.'

Rat-tat-tat ! Mrs. Burton had no time for ceremony. She had to present herself after a hurried wipe of the face with a wet towel and a stroke of the hair. She had to present herself, blue print and all.

'You will not know me, I think,' said the lady, with such a quiet, sweet, fresh voice, that Mrs. Burton, who had reddened a little as she opened the door, felt she could make her apology and explanation about the blue print and the half-dusted parlor quite easily.

'My name is Graham,' continued the lady, 'I live at Riverside, just out of the town. I want a little boy to come to me as helper for William there, and to attend to little matters of duty about the house. I have learned you have a little son, Robert, who would, I think, be likely to suit me.'

Mrs. Burton was full of wonder and gratitude, for really she had been concerned for Bobby, as she could not afford much longer to let him be unemployed, and these were the days before the educational movement took such active interest in the youth of the villages.

'It is very kind of you, marm, I'm sure. You shall see Robby. He is a good boy and I think you would like him, and I am sure he would like you, and I should so like him to go to you, it would be so nice and handy for him.'

So terms were arranged, and Robert in a few weeks found himself installed in Miss Graham's service. The first letter home was full of descriptions of this and of that; things that he saw and did; full of

high praise for the tender kindness of Miss Graham, and of regard for William and the other servants at Riverside, and it proceeded to say : —'and there are two little cats in missis' room the very same as Topsy and Tabby—I can't get to know nothing of them—I asked William, but he won't say—I only just got a sight of them when I was taking in the coal, but I'm almost certain they're our two very own kittens—but, perhaps, I will know some day—at any rate, missis is very kind, and William says as I've a good place for life.'

So the secret was slowly working its way out. I have not space to unwind the story properly, but if it were told entirely, it would report how Miss Graham always chose her helpers from quarters where she could count upon kindness to animals as evidencing due regard to the virtues which build up a right character. The message in the soap box—the cats' cradle—was an indication to Miss Graham that when she next wanted a page-boy, Robert Burton was eligible if he was then available. Robert's home on the occasion of her call was indication that for the rest the lad had been rightly brought up. So the days went cheerfully by. On his first pay day Robert was called in to Miss Graham's room. She gave him his wages to take home to mother, and with him sent a neat little paper parcel, which was to be opened in the evening when father came home to tea. That was a bright day for Robert. Never before had he felt so proud. With a lump in his throat he placed his earnings in his mother's hands and kissed her, and with glistening eyes and a quick, throbbing heart, said : "Isn't it a lot, mother ? Now you can buy Mary her new dress.'

What a lot there is to tell ! And the fire burned brightly towards evening, and the kettle steamed on the hob and the old clock ticked solemnly in the corner as they waited father's home-coming. At last he came and he kissed the lad, and his voice quivered as he said fervently :

'Bless the Lord—how good.'

After tea, in the warm light which glowed upon the cottage hearth, the parcel was brought to be untied, when lo ! out came the tell-tale card from the soap box ! Yes, there it was, just as the two children months before had written it, but it was now framed in a neat little frame, with another card beside it, bearing in the clear, clean writing of a lady's hand :—

He prayeth best who lovest best, all
things both great and small,
For the dear God, who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.

This is a certificate of good character. The accompanying card was the letter of recommendation upon which I engaged Robert Burton, and it is to teach a lesson of kindness to dumb creatures who cannot plead for themselves. God understands.

ELLEN GRAHAM.

John Burton, with his own hand, out of the fulness of his heart, wrote a letter to Miss Graham, and thanked her in his rugged manner, and mother and Mary signed their names to the document which Robert had to take back with him.

William on the next day was at liberty to tell Robert the history of the rescue of the two little waifs picked up so curiously.

It was thus that the kindness of the children bore fruit . Miss Graham had no reason to repent that she had taken Robert into her service. In the course of time Mary found herself a happy member of the same household. The little kittens grew into cats, sedate and serious, but tried to show their appreciation of their surroundings in all sorts of pretty ways. Mr. and Mrs. Burton were appointed lodge-keepers to Miss Graham; and as they grew older and laughed and talked of the incident which brought them together, they were always humbly and devoutly thankful that the kind act of the children had brought them into such a happy home.

And whilst it is to be remembered that great events—for the course of a life is a great event — have often but little beginnings, it is always, my dear young friends, to be remembered that acts of kindness always, always bring their reward.

(The End.)

Forgetting

'I am sorry to see that you and Hal are not as good friends as you used to be,' said George Hartwell's father to the young lad one day. 'Have you quarrelled ?'

'Not exactly; but he treated me in a mean, shabby way a while ago, and we've never been as good friends since.'

'Was he not sorry afterward ? Did he never ask your pardon ? I thought Hal was unusually ready to acknowledge himself in fault.'

'Oh, he said he was sorry, and he did ask my pardon.'

'You surely did not refuse it ?'

'Of course not, father ; but then I cannot forget, you know.'

'The same old story, my son,' said the father, gravely. 'What is pardon worth that still keeps the offience in angry remembrance ?'

'Well,' said George, excusingly, not answering the question, but making an objection, 'it is very hard to forget.'

'So it may be, but there is no reason for not doing it. Are you going to be so weak and self-indulgent always that you will not do a hard thing? For shame? It is the brave who first forget,' says some wise man, 'and noble foes that first unite.' Here is your chance to be both brave and noble, George. I shall be disappointed in you if you fail,' and the father left his son with a new thought in his mind, which soon ripened into purpose of heart to 'forgive and forget.'

People talk of 'making up one's mind,' but, after all, the heart has to be made right before the good deed is done. —'Australian Paper.'

An Indian Girl's Prayer.

Miss Mary L. Lord, a teacher among the Sioux Indians, relates the following touching incident in the 'Christian Press :'

An Indian baby was dying. It lay in its father's arms, while near by stood another little daughter a few years older, who was a Christian.

'Father,' said the little girl,' 'little sister is going to heaven to-night. Let me pray.' As she said this she kneeled at her father's knee, and this sweet little prayer fell from her lips :

'Father God, little sister is coming to see you to-night. Please open the door softly, and let her in. Amen !'

Expiring Subscriptions.

Would each subscriber kindly look at the address tag on this paper? If the date thereon is Nov. 1902, it is time that the renewals were sent in so as to avoid losing a single copy. As renewals always date from the expiry of the old subscriptions, subscribers lose nothing by remitting a little in advance.

HONOR ROLL

OF THE

TEMPERANCE PLEDGE CRUSADE.

FOR WEEK ENDING MONDAY NIGHT, Nov. 17.

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*A. LAMONTAGNE, Montreal.
*CHARLIE CHAPPELL, Montreal.
HIRAM WOOD, Palmont, O.
MAGGIE MACRAE, Sawyerville, Q.
**EDYTHE WELLS, Napanee O.
MRS. BOA, Point Fortune, Q.
*WM. ARTHUR STEEL, Hastings, O.
EDNA J. ELCOT, Brucefield, O.
*DONALD FRASER, Britton, O.
*WILLIE GRAY, Britton, O.
THOS. CLELAND, Britton, O.
MAY BUSH, Newington, O.
*STELLA HAWLEY, Madoc, O.
BESSIE MOON, Madoc, O.
*IDA VOLLICK, Madoc, O.
MARY NELSON, Topeka, Kan.
*Percy C. DENYES, Foxboro, O.
WILLIE S. NELSON, Hamilton, O.
*ARTHUR FLEURY, Ottawa, O.
*FERGUS KIRK, Gallingertown, O.
ISABELLA McEWEN, Russell, O.
EMMA ROBINSON, East Templeman, Q.
*F. OSBORNE, Wellington, O.
H. LEGGETT, Newboro, O.
*M. K. KENNEDY, Hickson, O.
J. H. LOCKYEAR, Ottawa, O.
*A. S. HAMILTON, Stratford, O.
G. S. SCOTT, Maple Valley, O
*A. W. SHEPPERSON, Kemble, O.
*M. STONEHOUSE, Edy's Mills, O.
*JAS. WEIR, Woodstock, O.
MRS. J. DICE, Topeka, Kan.
*H. P. McCARTER, Cowansville, Q.
*HARRY GREY, Maple Hill, Q.
IRENE A. WERRY, Crystal City, M.
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*M. McMURRAY, Manor, N.W.T.
M. A. BILTON, Richmond, Que.
**J. OAKMAN, Hastings, Ont
*JENNIE GORTON, Murillo, O.
C. W. PAGE, Sherbrooke, Q.
JOHN CARTWRIGHT, Strabane, O.
*J. O. McDONALD, Vankleek Hill, O.
WILBUR BUNKER, Toronto, O.
*LILY CARTER, Toronto, O.
*GLADYS WEBSTER, Toronto, O.
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*DOROTHY G. AMOS, North Bay, O.
*JEAN LAYTON, Great Village, N.S.
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H. H. GEDDES, McLaughlin Rd., N.B.
D. M. WETMORE, Hatfield Pt., N.B.
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F. A. YOUNG, Middleton, N.S.
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J. H. LINKLATER, Wingham, O.
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*BERTHA LITTLE, Mulmur, O.
*RUBY C. JONES, McGregor, O.
*MAY L. TROUP, Sherkston, O.
WILFRID SCOTT, Cedar Spring, O.
B. L. TINDALL, Sprucedale, O.
*EUNICE A. SIM, Katrine, O.
*ELVA McLAREN, Acton, O.
L. C. WENGER, Ayton, O.

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H. COCHRANE, Cambray, O.
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*DELLA M. FOX, Eldorado, O.
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ZEBUDAH BARBOUR, Erin, O.
G. E. PELTON, Russell, O.
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E. MITCHELL, Stanton, O.
C. ARMSTRONG, Rosemont, O.
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HENRY RUSSELL, Ottawa, O.
GEO. S. SMEATON, Ottawa, O.
M. SMEATON, Ottawa, O.
*G. MEAGHER, Ottawa, O.
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*EVA FETTERLY, Katrine, O.
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MAY COOPER, Knowlton Landing, Q.
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*MISS M. GIBSON, Midland, Ont.
R. & C. LANE, Lochalsh, Ont.
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JAS. COUTTS, Sine, Ont.
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R. J. JOHNSON, Doe Lake, Ont.
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*R. W. JONES, Up. Haynesville, N.B.
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G. WELDON Lower Foster Sett., N.S.
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*M. E. BROWN, Hampton, N.S.
*H. MARSHALL, Hampton, N.S.
G. E. BRINTON, Hampton, N.S.
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*L. L. DAWSON, Dawson Sett., N.B.
W. H. WALKER, Norton, N.B.
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*SYDNEY EDWARDS, Gay's River, N.S.
MARCELLA HOWATT, Tryon, P.E.I.
*C. COUNTRYMAN, Tweed. O.
MRS. R. ALGUIRE, Cornwall Centre, O.
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*ANDREW CARTER, Kingsmill, O.
GEO. FARR, Pelham Centre, O.
HERBERT WILES, Byng Inlet, O.
*B. MEIKLEJOHN, Sarginson, O.
S. F. McKILLOP, Cleveland, N.S.
R. WATKINS, Montreal, Q.
LILLIAN I. NASH, Aultsville, O.
*MABEL IRWIN, Sarginson, O.
*P. G. C. DAVID, Garden Hill, O.
FLOSSIE DRAPER, Quyon, Q.
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*PANSY THOMPSON, Heathcote, O.
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*J. A. BROWN, Athens, O.
B. BAKER, Spring Valley, Minn.
M. McCOLL, River Charlo, N.B.
*THERESA STEWART, Montreal, Q.
*E. PEACHEY, Brantford, O.
LILLIE BROWN, Wisbeach, O.
*LUELLA CRAGG, Greenbank, O.
****WESLEY STEWART, Winnipeg, M.
C. HALL, Toronto, O.
MRS. M. HARVEY, Franktown, O.
WINNIE HERD, Somenos, B.C.
*ANNIE WILSON, Calgary, N.W.T.
*H. F. HUGHES, Treadwell, O.
*****LILLIAS R. CAVERS, Tatehurst, Q.
*DARCY LECK, Rose Bay, N.S.
*JANET ANDREW, Elmvale, O.
*LAURA CRAIG, Toronto, O.
EVA M. DRANNEN, Kentail, O.
*MAY CONNOR, Madoc, O.
S. N. SMITH, Norwich, O.
R. THOMSON, Marchmont, O.
HELEN ALLAN, Rylstone, O.
VIOLET McCLENAGHAN, Howick Q.
*E. S. HALES, Burleigh, O.
*G. SHEARER, Lakehurst, O.
*E. McDONALD, Sunderland, O.
*GRACE RODER, Toronto, O.
*W. M. LUCAS, Toronto, O.
*M. R. HARTLEY, Montrose, O.
M. J. FORREST, Burnstown, O.
LEVI MORTON, Keswick, O.
EMMA ALLEN, Melbourne, O.
*MRS. H. MILLER, Smithfield, O.
MILDRED COLP, Beach Meadow, N.S.

Total Signatures to date 22,410. 11,630 Pledges Received Since Last Issue.

All those with this mark after their names have sent in at least forty signatures to the pledge and are entitled to a copy of the famous picture 'Christ Before Pilate.' Each additional list of twenty names entitles the sender to an additional; but no one gets more than one picture.

Mr. Isaac Lawson, of Trent Bridge, Ont., heads this list as his list was the first received for the week beginning Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Intemperate Children.

WHILE EARNING A LIVING THEY ACQUIRE A TASTE FOR LIQUOR.

('The Tribune,' New York.)

'There is one source of intemperance to which I do not remember having seen attention called in all the long and varied discussion of the subject,' says Florence Kelley, secretary of the National Consumers' League, and a temperance advocate. 'This is the temptation to which wage-earning children are exposed while at their work. In many factories it is customary for the youngest lad to go to the nearest saloon, carry a long pole with pegs on its side, and a tin can hanging from every peg. On the return trip the pole lies across the lad's shoulder, and the cans, containing beer, swing as he walks. He is paid for his trouble in sips of beer. The "beer boy" is a part of the equipment in all large smithies, and, indeed, wherever work is done at an excessive temperature. The workmen, full grown and able bodied, and engaged at steady work, take their beer as food or refreshment. But they have no realizing sense of the effect on the little lad's growing body and mind of the sips which they give him.

'A far larger number of children form the habit of drinking from exhaustion. They work out of all proportion to their strength, endure the same extremes of heat and cold, noise, dirt, discomfort, and exhaustion as the men among whom they work, and feel the need of something—they do not know what. The most accessible and instantaneous means of comfort is a drink, and the habit is easily and quickly formed. Even where boys are restrained from drinking by the fortunate habit of carrying home all their earnings, a practice widespread and beneficent, the exhaustion of the long working day, heavy and indigestible luncheon, and long journey to and from work in all weathers, ultimately bring a craving for stimulants. And when a rise in wages comes, when the lad is fifteen or sixteen, it often happens that the old wages is carried home and the difference spent in drink. The example of the older men counts for much in this, but physical exhaustion counts for more.

'How shall the evil be reached? There is only one honest, effective way to reach all the evils that afflict wage-earning children. That is to take the children bodily out of the stores and factories, the workshops, glassworks ,sweatshops and all other places in which growing children are stunted in body, mind and character, and keep them in school.'

A Judge's Sentence on Rumsellers.

('The Conservator.')

The following utterances of Judge Hubbard, of Nebraska, in passing sentence upon some convicted rumsellers, contain truths which should be brought home to every rumseller in the land who is permitted by the law to deal out ruin and death to his fellow creatures:

'There is something in the taking of human life instantaneously that shocks and terrifies the mind of all; and yet we look upon the man who takes life quite assuredly but by a slow lingering process, if not without condemnation, at least without horror. You who stand before the court for sentence are in every moral sense murderers, and you are in the spirit if not in the letter, guilty of manslaughter; so the law says whoever accelerates the death of a human being unlawfully is guilty of the crime. Your bloated victims upon the witness stand, and who undoubtedly committed perjury to screen you from the law, not only abundantly testify that you are accelerating death, but that you are inducing men to commit still greater crimes than your own. You still maintain the appearance of respectability, but how morally leprous and scrofulous you are inwardly. The ruin, poverty, and idleness which you are inflicting upon this community declare, as if from the housetops, that you are living in idleness and eating the bread of orphans, watered with the widow's tears. You are stealthily killing your victims and murdering the peace and industry of the community, and thus converting happy and industrious homes into misery, poverty and rags. Anxious mothers watch and pray in tears nightly, with desolate hearts, for the coming home of your victims whom you are luring, with the wiles and smiles of the devil, into midnight debauchery.'

Correspondence

North Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' for five years and I like it very much. I have two brothers and their names are George and Walter. I like to go to school. I have three pets, two dogs and one cat; the dogs are called Rover and Sport, and the cat's name is Snowball.

ELLA B. (Age 8.)

Meaford, Ont.

Dear Editor,—As I have never written to the 'Messenger' before, I thought I would write now. We get the 'Messenger' at our Sunday-school. I have two sisters and one brother. I have three-quarters of a mile to walk to Sunday-school and day school. I am in the fourth book. We have two dogs; one will draw the sleigh. My brother has two banties. We live on a farm of one hundred acres. We built a new barn the summer before last. We have three horses, one colt, and fifteen cattle. We live four miles from Meaford. My birthday is on May 6; I am thirteen years old. ANNIE C. H. H.

Rose Hill, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Northern Messenger' for nearly a year and like to read the correspondence best of all. Our school is about a mile distant, and we cannot go regularly. My favorite studies are: reading and spelling, British and Canadian history, lessons on health and bookkeeping. My most favorite study is bookkeeping. In summer time my two brothers and I help papa on the farm quite a lot. Both my grandfathers and grandmothers are living. My papa's father was born in Perthshire, Scotland, and his mother in Ayrshire, Scotland, and my mamma's father and mother were born in Ireland. I have been no more than ten miles away from home, that is, to our town named Bathurst. I have three sisters and three brothers. My birthday is on Dec. 16.

ALLIE Mc. (Age 13.)

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have just read your list of letters, and I am going to send this one. Our minister is new, so he has changed the papers, and we get the 'Messenger' now, and this is my first letter. I go to Sunday-school regularly, and like the 'Messenger' well. I am ten years old. I am in the third reader now, and like my teacher a little bit. FREDDIE S.

Acton, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I thought I would write you a few lines about our trip to the West. We went out to Spokane, Wash., about 400 miles from the Pacific coast; it is a great fruit-growing country; they grow apples that weigh one pound each. One apple is enough for a pie. It is a great wheat country and mining district. Mining productions are principally lead, silver, and copper. You have to pay a high price for everything out there, and you are taxed for everything you have. They have good water power from the Spokane Falls.

I will tell you where we were and what we saw on our return. On our way from Spokane to Toronto we passed over the Rocky Mountains, but we did not see much of the Rockies for we passed over them at night. After that we went through the bad lands of Dakota. We saw some wonderful sights. There were great trees petrified. In one place we saw a petrified man; he looked as if he had a book in his hand, but we passed him so quickly that we could not tell well. We passed a pile of clay in the shape of a house. In another place it was shaped like a monument. When we were about through the bad lands we stopped at a town and changed engines. We had not gone more than twenty miles, and some sand had got in between the driving shaft and wheel and it got hot and we had to stop and cool it off. We lost two hours that day and we made it up the next day. We went over a mountain 2,000 feet high; we had two engines on and we got up in about a half an hour. We could see a city that we left behind down in the valley. We spent a week in Chicago, and went from there to New York, in which place we stopped two weeks, and from there we went to Toronto, and from there we came to Acton. CLARENCE C. (Age 11.)

(What an interesting letter for a boy of eleven to write!—Ed.)

New Cornwall, N.S.

Dear Editor,—I am only a little girl and live with my grandfather on a farm. We have three cats and two dogs, two cows, a horse, two pairs of oxen, and two calves. I go to school. Our teacher's name is Miss Hebb. My great grandfather Hallamore came from Cornwall, England, when a boy, and was 102 years 7 months and 15 days old when he died. My grandparents Hallamore are both living, but my other grandpa is dead. I go to Sunday-school six months in the year and I go to mission band. One of our dear little members died on Oct. 30, Claudius Robon, aged 11 years and 12 days; her last day was devoted to prayer, and the last words she uttered were, 'O Lord Jesus, come take me home to heaven.' She died in her papa's arms. We shall miss our dear little sister very much. I am taking the 'Messenger' for the first year. I am ten years old if I live until June 1. ALBERTHA M. E.

St. John, N.B.

Dear Editor,—I go to school and am in the eighth grade. I like Latin and algebra, spelling and arithmetic, but do not care for drawing. I go to Calvin Presbyterian Church, and would not miss Sunday-school if I could help it. I have not missed since the first Sunday in September, 1900. I would not have missed Sunday-school then, only I went to Oxford, Maine, with my brother before that, and had to miss it. Oxford is forty-five miles from Portland, Me., and there I had a lovely time. V. R. B.

Lenore, Man.

Dear Editor,—As I have never seen any letters from Lenore I thought I would write. I have written once before, and never saw it printed in the 'Messenger.' We live on a farm. My father had five thousand bushels of wheat. We have sold our farm, and we are going to move to Virden in March. I have two sisters, their names are May and Carrie. My sister Mary is married.

LIZZIE M. (Age 12.)

Cartwright, Man.

Dear Editor,—I have never seen a letter from Cartwright yet, so I thought I would write one. I take the 'Messenger' and I like it very much. I have about two miles to walk to school. I am nine years old, and am in the third reader. I have two little sisters and one little baby brother; his name is Elgin. I have a dog called Carlo, and a pony called Wallie. I have two grandmas in Ontario, one in Toronto, and the other in the country. My grandpas are both dead. EDDIE A.

Masonworth, N.B.

Dear Editor,—As I have not written for the 'Messenger' yet and have taken it for two years I will write now. There is no-

body around takes the 'Messenger' but me, and I got it for a Christmas present. I go to school and read in the fifth reader. My studies are: reading, spelling, arithmetic, geometry, algebra, Canadian history, British history, natural history, health reader, writing, drawing, chemistry, geography, and practical speller. The teacher's name who taught us last term was Miss Bamford. We live on a farm. I have one sister; she is ten years old. My mother died eight years, ago and my youngest sister. Our grandmother keeps house. SUSIE A. J. (Age 12.)

Fergus, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We have taken the 'Northern Messenger' for a long time and would not like to be without it. I go to school and am in the senior fourth class. I don't think I will be a school-teacher. I don't like going to school very well. I have three brothers; my only sister is in heaven. For pets I have a black and white rabbit, three cats, and a large yellow dog. Jessie McF. said her birthday was on Jan. 3; so is mine.

ROY MAC. (Age 13.)

London, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have never seen any letters from London, I thought I would write one. I take the 'Messenger' and like it very much. I go to school; my teacher's name is Miss Winnett; I like her very much. I have one pet, and he is a dog, named Peter. I read in the second book. I wonder if there are any little boys or girls whose birthday is the same day as mine, Aug. 11. MARY C. (Age 11.)

Crosshill, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I received the Bagster Bible. I like it very much. I go to school every day. I like my teacher very well; his name is Mr. Barrit. I have one sister older than myself; she is fourteen years old. NELLIE F.

St. Catharines, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We get the 'Northern Messenger' every Sunday, and my papa takes the 'Weekly Witness.' We all like both papers very much indeed. I have two brothers, but no sisters. We have a dog named Gyp; that is the only pet we have. In summer St. Catharines is a very pretty place; it is called the Garden City of Canada. HAROLD McG. (Age 9.)

Markurg, Ont.

Dear Editor,—As I have not seen a letter from Markurg I thought I would write one. We like the 'Messenger' very much. I go to school, and our teacher's name is Miss Blakey; we like her very much. I went to the Pan-American Exhibition, and also to the menagerie; they were both good. I live on a farm. I have one sister and no brothers. My father is in California and my mother is dead. I live with my uncle in Canada.

MYRTLE R. (Age 9.)

New Boston, Iowa.

Dear Editor,—I have not seen any letters from New Boston, so I thought I would write one. My brother has taken the 'Northern Messenger' for more than three years, and I like to read the stories and correspondence very much. I like to go to school. The study I like best is geography, because I can find out something about other countries.

BESSIE B. (Age 10.)

Monck, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have not seen a letter from here yet. So I think I will write one. I am in the third reader. We have had a long vacation here. We have lots of fun playing. I live on a farm. My grandfather takes the 'Messenger.'

G. MACN. (Age 9.)

Kerwood, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I am a little girl aged 9. We have four horses; one is a bay horse, she is blind; we call her Net; she does not bite; Frank and Em are bays; Maude is black. I live a mile from day school. I have a dog named Topsy; she is brown, and she is good. Collie is white, brown and black. I like to read the correspondence in the 'Messenger.' I have a big doll which used to be Aunt Annie's. We have ten cattle, five pigs and two calves. My grandpa takes the 'Northern Messenger.' I have four sisters and one brother. Roy has a pony. MYRTLE B. K.

Malagash.

Dear Editor,—I have taken the 'Messenger' for a year and like it very much. I live on a farm. We have eleven cattle and three horses. I go to school in the winter time, and have great fun catching rabbits. I have six sisters but no brothers. GEORGE A.

Mulgrave, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have been thinking about writing a letter, but could not think of anything interesting to write; but when you suggested that we write about our ancestors, it gave me an idea. My great-grandfather had six children, four daughters and two sons; they are all living. My grandpa is the youngest and lives on the old homestead. If he lives until next August he will be eighty. Two years ago we took him by surprise on his birthday. There were between sixty and seventy of us. The table was set on the lawn; it was abundantly filled with dainties. It was a very hot day, and I enjoyed the lemonade very much. We children had a good romp after lunch and a good time in general. I shall never forget it. LUELLA M. Z.

North Keppel, Ont.

Dear Editor,—We are two little girls, Jean and Maggie, who have been getting the 'Messenger' for nearly a year. We think it is the only one that comes to our post-office, and we would like if you could put our letter in it so we could see it some day. We cannot go to school after winter commences, with the bad roads and long distance. We will have a new teacher when we start to school again. Our last teacher gave us a Christmas tree; it was loaded with presents and nice things for each of us scholars. We live on a farm with our mother and little sister, three miles from Georgian Bay and sixteen miles from Owen Sound. Our papa died and went to heaven four years since. Our little sister Nettie cannot go to school yet; she is five years old, and plays with her dolls and cats, which she calls Lucy and Snowball. We go to Kemble Church and Sabbath-school. Dr. McRobbie is our minister. From your little friends,

JEAN AND MAGGIE MACK.
(Age 8 and 7.)

East Templeton, Que.

Dear Editor,—This is my first letter to the 'Messenger.' I go to school and am in the fourth reader. I go to Sunday-school as well, and like my teacher very much. We have a library at Sunday-school. We live close to a mill; this is a nice place in summer. I like the 'Messenger' very well. I have one sister and one brother. I live six miles from Ottawa, and go up to town very often in summer. I live beside the Ottawa River.

L. A. (Age 11.)

Dix, Ill.

Dear Editor,—As I have never seen any letter from Dix, I thought I would write one. My sister takes the 'Northern Messenger.' I have two brothers and two sisters. I go to school every day and I like my teacher very much. His name is Mr. Harmon. We have eight cows and one calf and four horses. I wonder if any little girl or boy has the same birthday as mine, Jan. 3. LIZZIE C. (Age 10.)

Meaford, Ont.

Dear Editor,—As I have never written to you before I thought I would do so now. We take the 'Northern Messenger' and 'Weekly Witness' and enjoy them very much. My grandfather took the 'Messenger' and 'Witness' and 'Dominion Monthly' when my mother was a little girl, and takes the 'Witness' still. I live on a farm on top of a hill, which is called Mount Pleasant, and we have one of the most beautiful views in the country. We live seven miles from the town of Meaford, and can see the Georgian Bay very plainly from here. I have nearly half a mile to go to school, and am in the senior third book. I wonder if any other little girls' birthday is the same date as mine, which is Dec. 24, Christmas Eve.

MABEL A. M. (Age 11.)

Sheguiandah.

Dear Editor,—My sister has been getting the 'Messenger' for a number of years and now we get it in the Methodist school. I have four sisters and only one brother. I have one pet and that is a cat. We have eleven sheep, a cow, two calves, and a horse and a colt. I am just about nine years old. I am writing this letter myself. I can not write very well. My brother is the baby; he has twelve teeth, and he will be two years old in June. I go to the daily school and I am in the second book. My teacher's name is Mr. Arthur, and my Sunday-school teacher's name is Mrs. Batman. E. A.

(Your writing was remarkably good for nine years' old.—Ed.)

Bear River, Ont.

Dear Editor,—I have never seen a letter from Bear River, so I thought I would write one. We get the 'Messenger' at Sunday-school. Our teacher's name is Mr. Brodie. I have one sister older than me, her name is Belva, and one brother younger; he is five years old; his name is John. My oldest sister is in Heaven. I had a dear little cousin, his name was Russell, but he went away to heaven a few weeks ago. My grandpa keeps the post-office; he had his leg taken off about five months ago; he is eighty-two years old. My papa is a farmer. We have three miles to go to school. Our teacher's name is Mr. Cherry. My sister and I take music lessons. For pets I have a calf, her name is Clover; a pet lamb, her name is Biddie. I am a little girl nine years old. My birthday is on Dec. 9. HAZEL M. K.

Aylmer, Que.

Dear Editor,—Please permit a little reader of the 'Northern Messenger' to send you the prayerful supplication which he offers up to God every morning. As it has never been in print before, it may help some other little soul who receives the 'Messenger':

O Lord! Another day has come
Which brings me nearer to Thy Home
Oh! make my words be those of love
And hear them at Thy Throne above.
Pour blessings on my parents dear,
And keep them always in good cheer;
But should we die throughout the day,
May we, with Christ, abide alway.

COMPTON KLOCK.

Mail Bag.

Quebec, Nov. 12, 1902.

Dear Sir,—In urging the Pledge-signing Crusade in your columns it is not very clear to the uninitiated whether these total abstinence pledges are to be signed exclusively by those who have not already signed any pledge. Will you please explain. W. C. T. U.

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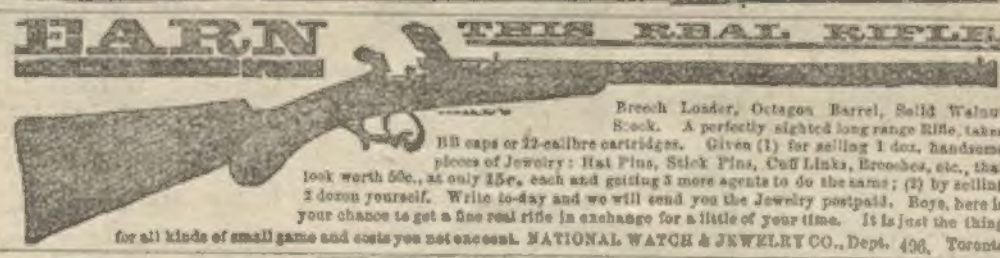

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Sure death to Rats, Crows, Squirrels, Rabbits, etc. **Long Range. Terrific Force.** All steel barrel and fittings, improved sights, walnut stock. The best Air Gun made. **Given** for selling at **15c.** each, only **1 doz. Canadian Home Cook Books.** These Books are nicely printed, beautifully bound and each contains **739** choice recipes. **Every housekeeper buys one.** Write for Cook Books to-day. **HOME SPECIALTY CO., TORONTO, Ontario.**

FREE VIOLIN.

Powerful Sweet Tone with strings and bow, full size, Stradivarius model, made of selected wood, with highly-polished top, inlaid edges and ebony-finished trimmings, given for doing 2 things: (1) selling at **10c.** each, **15** packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders; (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 2½ dozen yourself. Each package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** You can earn this Grand Concert Violin in a few minutes. Write to-day and we will send the Flavoring Powders postpaid.

THE HOME ART CO., DEPT. 494, TORONTO, ONTARIO.

SHOT GUN FREE

For doing two things (1) selling at **10c.** each, only **18** packages of Chinese blue-black Ink Powders, (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same or by selling 2 doz. yourself. Each package makes five 5c. bottles (25c. worth) of Superior Ink. It is so **cheap** and useful that **everybody buys.** This splendid gun is finely made with best quality steel barrel, taper choked-bored, reliable lock, highly finished hardwood stock with steel shoulder-plate and trigger guard, and metal tipped ramrod. It is accurately sighted and **guaranteed a splendid shooter.** Dealers ask $6.00 for this gun. You can get one absolutely free in exchange for a few minutes of your spare time. Write to-day and we will send the Ink Powders postpaid. **THE NATIONAL PEN & INK CO., DEPT. 488, TORONTO, ONTARIO.**

FUR SCARF FREE

Soft, warm, glossy black, 3 feet 6 inches long, 5 inches wide, made of selected full furred skins with 6 fine full black tails. A handsome, stylish Fur given **1st** for selling at **15c.** each only **7 Canadian Home Cook Books** and getting 3 more Agents to do the Same, or **2nd,** by selling **14** yourself. These Books are nicely printed, beautifully bound, and each contains **739** choice recipes. **Every Housekeeper buys one.** Write to-day and we will send the Cook Books postpaid. You can easily sell them and earn this elegant Fur in a few minutes. **HOME SPECIALITY CO., DEPT. 488 TORONTO.**

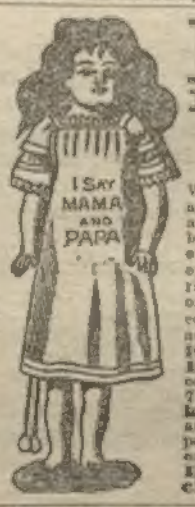
FREE 8-KEY CORNET

Finely shaped and beautifully made of polished nickel, with powerful, clear, sweet tone, given for selling **10c.** each only 15 packages of Chinese blue-black Ink Powders. Each package makes five 5c. bottles of superior Ink. It is so **cheap** and useful that **everybody buys.** Write to-day and we will send the Ink Powder postpaid. The National Pen and Ink Co., Dept. 495, Toronto, Ont.

LADY'S WATCH FREE

for doing two things: (1) Selling at **15c.** each only **10 Canadian Home Cook Books.** (2) Getting three more agents to do the same, or by selling 20 yourself. These Books are nicely printed, beautifully bound and each contains **739** choice recipes. You can easily sell the Cook Books and earn this watch in a few minutes. It is a little beauty, with silver nickel case, fancy decorated dial, gold hands and stem wind and set, reliable imported works. Write to-day and we will send the Cook Books postpaid. Premium Co., Dept. 489, Toronto

TALKING DOLL FREE FREE FREE



Wonderful speaking doll. Laughs, cries and talks, says "Mamma" and "papa" as plainly as any living child. She is a beauty, too, prettier than any baby you ever saw. Has rosy cheeks, laughing eyes, real pearly teeth and long golden ringlets. Get her and you will have the only real talking doll in your part of the country. Not one cent to pay. All we ask you to do is to sell at 15c. each only **10 Canadian Home Cook Books.** These Books are nicely printed, beautifully bound and each contains 739 choice Recipes. **Every housekeeper buys one.** Write to-day and we will send you the Cook Books postpaid. You can easily sell them and earn this **wonderful Speaking Doll** in a few minutes. **Home Specialty Co., Dept. 487 Toronto.**

FREE GOLD WATCH LADY'S OR GENT'S SIZE

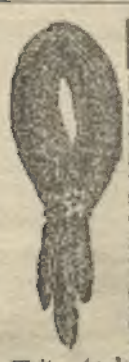
Double Hunting Case, beautifully Gold finished and richly engraved in handsome Solid Gold designs, stem wind and set, imported jewelled works, accurate and reliable. A very beautiful watch. Looks **worth $50.00. We give it** for doing two things: (1) selling at **10c.** each, only 1½ doz. packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders, and (2) securing 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 3 doz. yourself. Each package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring, and is far better. **Everybody buys.** Write to-day and we will send the Flavoring Powders postpaid. THE HOME ART CO., Dept. 472 Toronto

110 for 10 cents

This book contains one hundred and ten of the best humorous recitations, embracing the Negro, Yankee, Irish, and Dutch dialects, both in prose and verse, as well as humorous compositions of every kind and character. Sent postpaid for 10c. Johnston & Co., Box 401, Toronto.

FREE GOLD WATCH
LADY'S OR GENT'S SIZE

Double Hunting Case, beautifully Gold finished and richly engraved in handsome Solid Gold designs, stem wind and set, imported jewelled works, accurate and reliable. A very beautiful watch. Looks **worth $100.00.** We give it for doing two things: (1) Selling at **10c.** only 1½ doz. packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders, (2) getting 3 other agents to do the same, or by selling 3 doz. yourself. One package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** You can **earn this elegant watch in a few minutes.** Write to-day and we will send the Flavoring Powders postpaid. **The HOME ART CO., DEPT. 473, TORONTO.**



FUR RUFF FREE

ELEGANT, SOFT AND WARM, COMFORTABLE AND STYLISH. Full length, made of soft, warm, glossy, black fur, a perfect imitation of the finest Sable, with real head and three full tails, very pretty. **Given absolutely free** for doing 2 things: (1) Selling at 10. each only one dozen large beautiful packages of delicious Heliotrope, Violet and Rose Perfume; (2) Getting 3 more agents to do the same or by selling 2 doz. yourself. **Nothing sells like our Perfume.** Its fragrance lasts for years. THOS. BARRY, AMHERSTBURG, ONT., says: "I sold all the perfume in 15 minutes." Write to-day and we will send the Perfume postpaid. **We trust you. The Paris Perfume Co.,** DEPT. 479 **Toronto.**

TALKING DOLL
FREE
FREE
FREE

Wonderful speaking doll. Laughs, cries and talks, says "Mamma" and "Papa" as plainly as any living child. She is a beauty, too, prettier than any baby you ever saw. Has rosy cheeks, laughing eyes, real pearly teeth and long golden ringlets. Get her and you will have the only real talking doll in your part of the country. Not one cent to pay. All we ask you to do is to sell at **10c.** each only 15 packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders. One package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Nothing sells like it. Everybody buys.** Write to-day and we will send you the Flavoring Powders postpaid. You can easily sell them and earn this **wonderful Speaking Doll** in a few minutes. **The Home Art Co., Dept. 487 Toronto, Ontario.**

FREE STEAM FIRE ENGINE,

made entirely of steel, iron and brass, beautifully finished, with driving wheel, shaft and piston, polished brass boiler and steam chest, Russian iron furnace compartment, brass steam pump with a suction hose and a long fire hose, with a brass nozzle, given for selling at 10c. each only 1½ doz. packages of Chinese blue-black Ink Powders. Each package makes five 5c. bottles of superior Ink. It is so **cheap** and useful that **everybody buys.** You can earn this wonderful Fire Engine in a few minutes. Write to-day and we will send you the Ink Powders postpaid. **THE NATIONAL PEN AND INK CO., DEPT. 486 TORONTO**

FREE GOLD CASED WATCH

given for doing two things: (1) selling at **10c.** each only **1¼ doz.** packages of blue-black Chinese Ink Powders, (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or selling 3 doz. yourself. Each package makes five 5c. bottles (25c. worth) of Superior Ink. It is so **cheap** and useful that **everybody buys.** This handsome watch is elegantly engraved in Solid Gold designs, open face, stem wind and set, fitted with imported jewelled works, cylinder escapement, reliable and accurate. Looks worth $50.00. You can easily earn it in a few minutes. Write for Ink Powders to-day. **NATIONAL PEN & INK CO., DEPT. 482 TORONTO, ONT.**

FREE OPAL RING

made of Solid Gold alloy, handsomely designed and set with three large beautiful Opals that show all the gorgeous colors of the rainbow. A very handsome and stylish Ring, given free for selling at **10c** each only 1 doz. packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders. One package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** Write to-day and we will send you the Flavoring Powders postpaid. You can easily sell them and earn this beautiful Opal Ring in a few minutes. **Home Art Co., Dept. 474 Toronto.**

FREE TO GIRLS

This beautiful "Forest Oak" Doll's House two stories high with bricks, shingles, windows, etc., in such natural colors that it looks like a real house. Has separable rooms, with wall paper and suitable furniture represented in colors, stoves, framed pictures, articles for cooking, beds, etc., just like the big house you live in. Get one and you will feel that you are a real grown-up housekeeper, with a **lovely little home for your best dolly.** We give it free for selling at 10c. each only 15 packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders. Each package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** Write for Flavoring Powders to-day and we will send them postpaid. **THE HOME ART CO., DEPT. 492 TORONTO, Ont.**

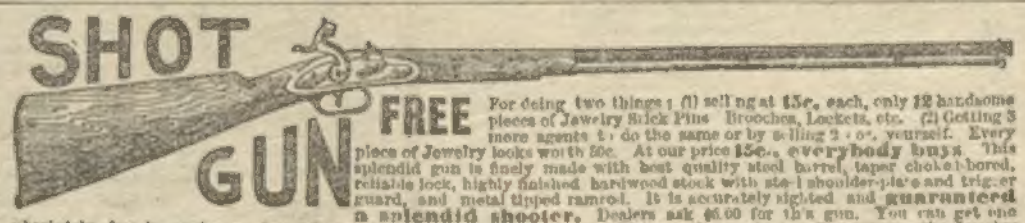
FREE RIFLE

Sure death to Rats, Crows, Squirrels, Rabbits, etc. **Long Range. Terrific Force.** All steel barrel and fittings, improved sights, walnut stock. The best Air Gun made. **Given** for selling at **15c.** each, only 12 handsome pieces of Jewelry, Lockets, Stick Pins, etc. Every piece of our Jewelry looks worth 50c., at **15c** you can sell the 12 pieces in a few minutes. Write to-day and we will send the Jewelry postpaid. **National Watch and Jewelry Co., Toronto, Ont.**

FREE 97-PIECE DINNER AND TEA SET

full size for family use, made of the finest ware, in the very newest shapes and latest designs, suitable for any table. The decorations are clear and distinct, delicate in design, and the whole effect is stylish, beautiful and artistic; a set that will give you lasting pleasure because it will stand the wear of years, the colors never losing their Brilliancy. This elegant set consists of 12 Dinner Plates, 12 Tea Plates, 12 Soup Plates, 12 Cups, 12 Saucers, 12 Fruit Saucers, 12 Butter Pats, 2 Vegetable Dishes, 2 Covers, 1 10-inch Meat Platter, 1 14-inch Meat Platter, 1 Gravy Boat, 1 Tea Pot and cover, 1 Sugar Bowl and cover, 1 Creamer and 1 Slop Bowl, in all 97 full size pieces, all light in weight, perfect in color, extra smooth, and for beauty and richness equal to any Dinner Set ever sold at retail for less than $15.00. We **give it free** for doing 2 things—1, selling at **15c.** each only 2 doz. handsome pieces of Jewelry: Lockets, Cuff Links, Stick Pins, Brooches, etc.; 2, getting 3 more agents to do the same or by selling 4 doz. yourself. Every piece of our Jewelry looks worth 50c. MRS. JNO. POWLESS, DESERONTO, ONT., says: "The dishes are most beautiful and I am so well pleased with them that I do not know how to thank you. The neighbors all think they are grand and my husband is delighted with them." If you have longed to possess a handsome set of dishes but yet felt hardly able to afford one, here is your chance to get one free. Write to-day and we will send the Jewelry postpaid. The National Watch and Jewelry Co., Dept. 490, Toronto.

SHOT GUN FREE



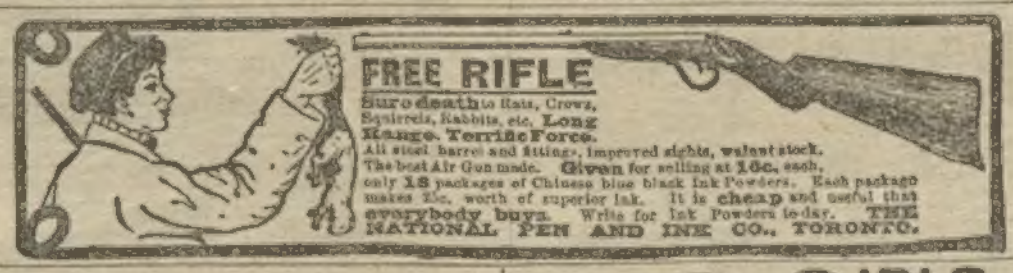
For doing two things: (1) selling at **15c.** each, only 12 handsome pieces of Jewelry Stick Pins Brooches, Lockets, etc. (2) Getting 3 more agents to do the same or by selling 2 doz. yourself. Every piece of Jewelry looks worth 50c. At our price **15c., everybody buys.** This splendid gun is finely made with best quality steel barrel, taper choke bored, reliable lock, highly finished hardwood stock with steel shoulder-plate and trigger guard, and metal tipped ramrod. It is accurately sighted and **guaranteed a splendid shooter.** Dealers ask $6.00 for this gun. You can get one absolutely free in exchange for a few minutes of your spare time. Write to-day and we will send you the Jewelry postpaid **THE NATIONAL WATCH AND JEWELRY CO., DEPT. 483 TORONTO, ONTARIO.**

LADY'S OR GENT'S FREE $40.00 BICYCLE

Brand new, Lady's or Gent's 1903 model. Not one cent to pay. All we ask is a little of your time. **A real Bicycle, High Grade, Brand new,** with every up-to-date feature—best seamless steel tubing, finely enamelled Diamond frame, all other metal parts made from best steel, well finished and handsomely nickel plated; good pneumatic tires, rock elm rims, bar steel hubs, improved saddle, new style handle bars, etc., etc. High grade ball bearing throughout—in fact a regular $40.00 Bicycle free, for doing two things: (1) Selling 5 doz. handsome pieces of Jewelry, Hat Pins, Stick Pins, Cuff Links, Brooches, etc., that look worth 50c. at only **15c.** each. (2) Getting 3 more agents to do the same or by selling 10 doz. yourself. **The Bicycle will cost you not one cent. Here's your chance. Don't miss it.** One agent says: "I am well pleased with my Bicycle. It is the easiest running wheel I have ever been on. Frank Clemens, Tara, Ont." Write to-day, and we will send you the Jewelry, on credit, postpaid. Address, **The National Watch and Jewelry Co., Dept. 486, Toronto, Ontario.**

97 PIECES FREE DINNER AND TEA SET

Elegantly decorated English China. 12 Dinner Plates, 12 Tea Plates, 12 Soup Plates, 12 Cups, 12 Saucers, 12 Fruit Saucers, 12 Butter Pats, 2 Vegetable Dishes, 2 Covers, 1 10-inch Meat Platter, 1 14 inch Meat Platter, 1 Gravy Boat, 1 Tea Pot and Cover, 1 Sugar Bowl and Cover, 1 Creamer and 1 Slop Bowl—in all 97 **full size pieces** of handsome decorated China **given away** for doing two things: (1) Selling at 15c. each only 2 doz. Canadian Home Cook Books, (2) getting 3 other agents to do the same, or by selling 4 doz. yourself. These books are nicely printed, beautifully bound, and each contains **735** choice recipes. Send your order to-day. You can easily sell the Cook Books in a few minutes. Every housekeeper keeps one. 20,000 sold already. **The Premium Co., Dept. 471 Toronto.**



FREE RIFLE

Sure death to Rats, Crows, Squirrels, Rabbits, etc. **Long Range. Terrific Force.** All steel barrel and fittings, improved sights, **walnut stock.** The best Air Gun made. **Given** for selling at **10c.** each, only **18** packages of Chinese blue black Ink Powders. Each package makes 25c. worth of superior Ink. It is **cheap** and useful that **everybody buys.** Write for Ink Powders to-day. **THE NATIONAL PEN AND INK CO., TORONTO.**

FREE

This genuine Columbia Phonograph reproduces Songs, Speeches, animal imitations, instrumental selections, etc., in a most lifelike manner. We give it complete with five up-to-date records for doing two things: (1) selling at 10c. each 18 packages of **Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders,** and (2) securing 3 other agents to do the same, or selling 3 doz. yourself. Each package equals 10c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** Write for Flavoring Powders to-day. The Home Art Co., Dept. **481** Toronto.

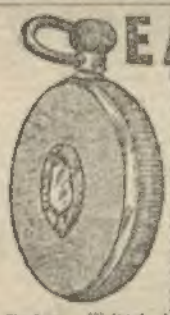
GIRLS LOOK

Little Princess, the prettiest doll in the world, nearly 2 feet high, elegantly dressed from head to foot in silks and satins, lace and velvet, with stylish hat, dainty little slippers, real stockings, and lace-trimmed underclothing. Can be dressed and undressed like any live baby. As pretty as a fairy princess, rosy cheeks, pearly teeth, beautiful eyes and golden ringlets. Can stand alone or sit in a chair. **Given** for selling at **10c.** each only 1½ doz. packages of **Lemon, Vanilla** and **Almond** Flavoring Powders. Each package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** Write to-day and we will send Flavoring Powders postpaid. The Home Art Co., Dept. 470, Toronto.

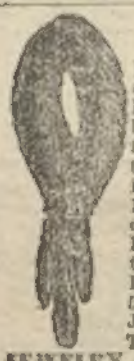
GIRLS LOOK

Little Princess, the prettiest doll in the world, nearly 2 feet high elegantly dressed from head to foot in silks and satins, lace and velvet, with stylish hat, dainty little slippers, real stockings, and lace-trimmed underclothing. Can be dressed and undressed like any live baby. As pretty as a fairy princess, rosy cheeks, pearly teeth, beautiful eyes and golden ringlets. Can stand alone or sit in a chair. **Given free** for selling at 15c. each only **2 doz.** beautiful 14k Gold-Finished Stick Pins. These dainty Pins are in a variety of pretty designs set with exquisite imitation Turquoise, Diamonds, Rubies, etc. They look easily worth 50c., and at our prices, only 15c., **go like wildfire.** Write to-day and we will send you the Stick Pins postpaid. The Maxwell Co., Dept. **470** Toronto

EARN THIS WATCH



by doing two things: (1) selling at **10c.** each only 1 doz. packages of Ancient Chinese blue black **Ink Powder.** (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 2 doz. yourself. Each package makes five 5c. bottles (25c. worth) of superior Ink. It is so **cheap** and **a trial** that **everybody buys.** This handsome watch has polished **silver nickel** open face **case,** the back **elaborately engraved,** with keyless wind imported works, genuine lever escapement, an exact and reliable timekeeper. With care **it will last ten years.** Write to-day and we will send the 12 packages postpaid. The National Pen and Ink Co., Box **484** Toronto, Ont



FUR RUFF FREE

Elegant, Soft and Warm. Comfortable and Stylish. Full length, made of soft, warm, glossy, black fur, a perfect imitation of the finest sable, with real head and three tails, very pretty. **Given absolutely Free** for doing two things—(1) selling at 15c. each only 8 handsome pieces of Jewelry, Stick Pins, Lockets, Cuff Links, Hat Pins, etc. (2) Getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 16 yourself. Every piece of our Jewelry looks worth 50c. Write to-day and we will send the Jewelry postpaid. **We trust you.** THE NATIONAL WATCH AND JEWELRY CO., 479. TORONTO, ONT.

FREE STEAM FIRE ENGINE

Made entirely of steel, iron and brass, beautifully finished with driving wheel, shaft and piston, polished brass boiler and steam chest, Russian iron furnace compartment, brass steam pump with a suction hose and a long fire hose with a brass nozzle, given for selling at **15c.** each, only **1 doz.** Diamond Collar Buttons with richly engraved gold finished tops, set with large sparkling Electric Diamonds. **Everybody buys.** You can earn this wonderful Fire Engine in a few minutes. Write to-day and we will send the Collar Buttons postpaid. THE SPECIALTY CO., DEPT. 480 TORONTO.

FREE

This genuine Columbia Phonograph reproduces Songs, Speeches, animal imitations, instrumental selections, etc., in a most lifelike manner. We give it complete with five up-to-date records for doing two things: (1) selling at 10c. each only 16 packages of Chinese blue-black Ink Powders, (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 3 doz. yourself. Each package makes five 5c. bottles (25c. worth) of superior ink. It is so **cheap** that **everybody** buys. Write for Ink Powders to-day. **National Pen and Ink Co., Dept. 481 Toronto.**

LADY'S WATCH FREE

for doing 2 things: (1) selling at **10c.** each, only **15** packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders; (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same or by selling 2½ doz. yours If. One package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. Every housekeeper buys one or more packages. You can earn this watch in a few minutes. It is a little beauty, with silver nickel case, fancy decorated dial, gold hands and stem wind and set, reliable imported works. Write to-day and we will send you the Flavoring Powders postpaid. We trust you. **The Home Art Co., Dept. 489 Toronto**

FREE GRAPHOPHONE

Given for doing two things: (1) Selling at **10c.** each only **1½ doz. Wonderful Glass Pens!** (2) getting 3 more agents so do the same, or selling 3 doz. yourself. These Pens are made entirely of glass. They are light as a feather, never rust, never wear out, and write a page with one dip of ink. **They sell easily everywhere.** This wonderful instrument is made by the famous Colombia Phonograph Co., of New York and Paris. With it we send five selections, as follows: Speech; "Song of Sixpence"; "The Mocking Bird"; Imitations of Robins, Tree Toads, Turkeys, Chickens, Ostriches, etc., and Cornet Solo "Dixie Land." Write to-day and we will send you the Pens postpaid. You can easily earn this Wonderful Graphophone in a few minutes. Pen Co., Dept. 489, Toronto.

97 PIECES FREE DINNER AND TEA SET

Elegantly decorated English China, 12 Dinner Plates, 12 Tea Plates, 12 Soup Plates, 12 Cups, 12 Saucers, 12 Fruit Saucers, 12 Butter Pads, 2 Vegetable Dishes, 2 Covers, 1 10-inch Meat Platter, 1 14-inch Meat Platter, 1 Gravy Boat, 1 Tea Pot and Cover, 1 Sugar Bowl and Cover, 1 Creamer and 1 Slop Bowl—in all **97 full size Pieces** of handsome decorated China **given away** for doing two things: (1) Selling only 3 doz. packages of delicious Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders, at 10c. each, (2) getting 3 other agents to do the same, or by selling 6 doz. yourself. Our 10c. packages of Flavoring Powders are equal to 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and are far better. Every housekeeper buys one or more. This handsome set will not cost you one cent. All the **97 Pieces** are **full size** for family use. **We trust you fully.** Write to-day and we will send you the Powders postpaid. **Don't miss this chance.** THE HOME ART CO., DEPT. 471 Toronto, Ont.

FREE RIFLE

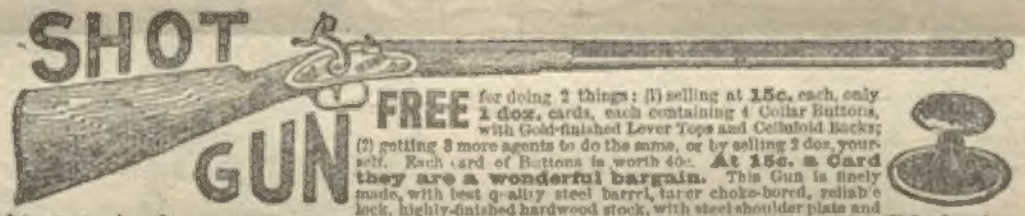
Sure death to Rats, Crows, Squirrels, Rabbits, etc. **Long Range. Terrific Force.** All steel barrel and fittings, improved sights, walnut stock. The best Air Gun made. **Given** for selling at **10c.** each, only 1½ doz. packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring powders. Each package equal 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring, and is far better. **Everybody buys.** Our Agents sell one or more packages at every house. Write for Flavoring Powders to-day. THE HOME ART COMPANY, TORONTO, ONTARIO.

GIRLS THIS DOLL IS FOR YOU

Not a single cent to pay for her. As pretty as a picture. You will fall in love with her the minute you see her. Golden ringlets, laughing blue eyes, rosy cheeks, stylishly dressed in silk and satin, with velvet and lace trimmings. Lovely trimmed hat, dainty little slippers, real stockings, lace-trimmed underwear. She can be dressed and undressed like any live baby. Her head, arms and legs are movable. She can stand alone or sit in a chair or on the floor. When you get her you will say she is the prettiest doll you have ever seen. **We give her free,** for selling at **15c.** each only **1 doz. Canadian Home Cook Books.** These books are nicely printed, beautifully bound, and each contains **739** choice recipes. Write to-day and we will send you the Cook Books postpaid. You can easily sell them in a few minutes. **Every housekeeper buys one.** 20,000 sold already. **Don't miss this grand chance** but write at once.

THE HOME SPECIALTY CO., DEPT. 493 TORONTO, ONTARIO

SHOT GUN FREE



for doing 2 things: (1) selling at **15c.** each, only **1 doz.** cards, each containing 4 Collar Buttons, with Gold-finished Lever Tops and Celluloid Backs; (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 2 doz. yourself. Each card of Buttons is worth 40c. **At 15c. a Card they are a wonderful bargain.** This Gun is finely made, with best quality steel barrel, taper choke-bored, reliable lock, highly-finished hardwood stock, with steel shoulder plate and trigger guard and metal-tipped rammrd. It is accurately sighted and **guaranteed a splendid shooter** Write to-day for the Collar Buttons. THE BEST CO., DEPT. 1483 TORONTO, ONTARIO.

FREE —TO— BOYS

Bow and arrow. The very latest idea. Not the old-fashioned sort that is spoiled by water and so soon wears out, but a bow with an unbreakable, oil tempered, coiled elastic wire string, having a tremendous rebound, and **shooting 200 feet as straight as a die.** Never wears out. Never gets slack. Ready for use in all weather. The arrow is of smooth finished hardwood, rubber tipped, and **safe to use in or out of doors.** The most complete, durable and enjoyable game ever invented. Given for selling at **10c.** each only 1 doz. packages of Chinese blue-black Ink Powders. Each package makes five 5c. bottles of Superior Ink. It is so **cheap** and useful that **everybody buys.** Write to-day and we will send the Ink Powders postpaid. **The National Pen & Ink Co., Dept. 491 Toronto.**

FREE GOLD CASED WATCH

given for doing two things: (1) selling at **10c.** each only **1½ doz.** packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders, (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or selling 3 doz. yourself. Each package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Everybody buys.** This handsome watch is elegantly engraved in Solid Gold designs, open face, stem wind and set, fitted with imported jewelled works, cylinder escapement, reliable and accurate. Looks worth $50.00. You can easily earn it in a few minutes. Write for Powders to-day. HOME ART CO., DEPT. **482** TORONTO

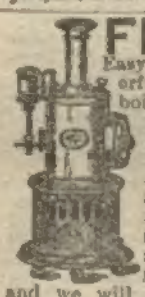
GIRLS, LOOK

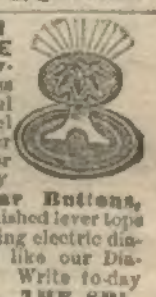
Little Princess, the prettiest doll in the world, nearly 2 feet high, elegantly dressed from head to foot in silks and satins, lace and velvet, with stylish hat, dainty little slippers, real stockings and lace trimmed underclothing. Can be dressed and undressed like any live baby. As pretty as a fairy Princess, rosy cheeks, pearly teeth, beautiful eyes and golden ringlets. Can stand alone or sit in a chair. **Given free** for selling at **15c.** each only 1 doz. handsome pieces of Jewelry, Lockets, Stick Pins, Cuff Links, Hat Pins, etc. Every piece of our Jewelry looks worth 50c. At 15c. you can easily sell the 12 pieces in a few minutes. Write to-day and we will send the Jewelry postpaid. **National Watch and Jewelry Co., Dept. 485, Toronto, Ontario.**

FREE GOLD WATCH LADY'S OR GENT'S SIZE

Reliable Hunting Case, beautifully Gold finished and richly engraved in handsome Solid Gold designs, stem wind and set, imported jewelled works, accurate and reliable. A very beautiful watch. Looks **worth $50.00. We give** it for doing two things: (1) selling at **10c.** each, only 1½ doz. large beautiful packages of delicious Heliotrope, Violet and Rose Perfume; (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 3 doz. yourself. **Everybody buys our perfume.** Write to-day and we will send it postpaid, **Paris Perfume Co., Dept. 472 Toronto**

FREE STEAM ENGINE





Easy running, swift and powerful, with iron stand, brass boiler and steam chest, steel piston rod and fly-wheel and Russian iron burner compartments, given for selling at 15c. each only **8 Diamond Collar Buttons,** richly engraved gold-finished lever tops set with brilliant, flashing electric diamonds. Nothing sells like our Diamond Collar Buttons. Write to-day and we will send them postpaid. THE SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 477, TORONTO, ONT.

FUR SCARF FREE

Soft, warm, glossy black, 3 feet 6 inches long, 5 inches wide, made of selected full furred skins with 6 fine full black tails. A handsome, stylish Fur, given for doing two things, (1) selling at 10c. each 10 packages of Lemon, Vanilla and Almond Flavoring Powders, (2) getting 3 more agents to do the same, or by selling 20 yourself. One package equals 20c. worth of Liquid Flavoring and is far better. **Every housekeeper buys one or more packages.** Write to-day and we will send the Flavoring Powders postpaid. You can easily sell them and earn this elegant Fur in a few minutes. Home Art Co., Dept. 483, Toronto.

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